JOHN BULL

Vol. X. No. 244. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1911. ONE PENNY.

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For meaning of this No. see Page iii. of cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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John Bull's Letter Bag.

Racing Notes, etc.

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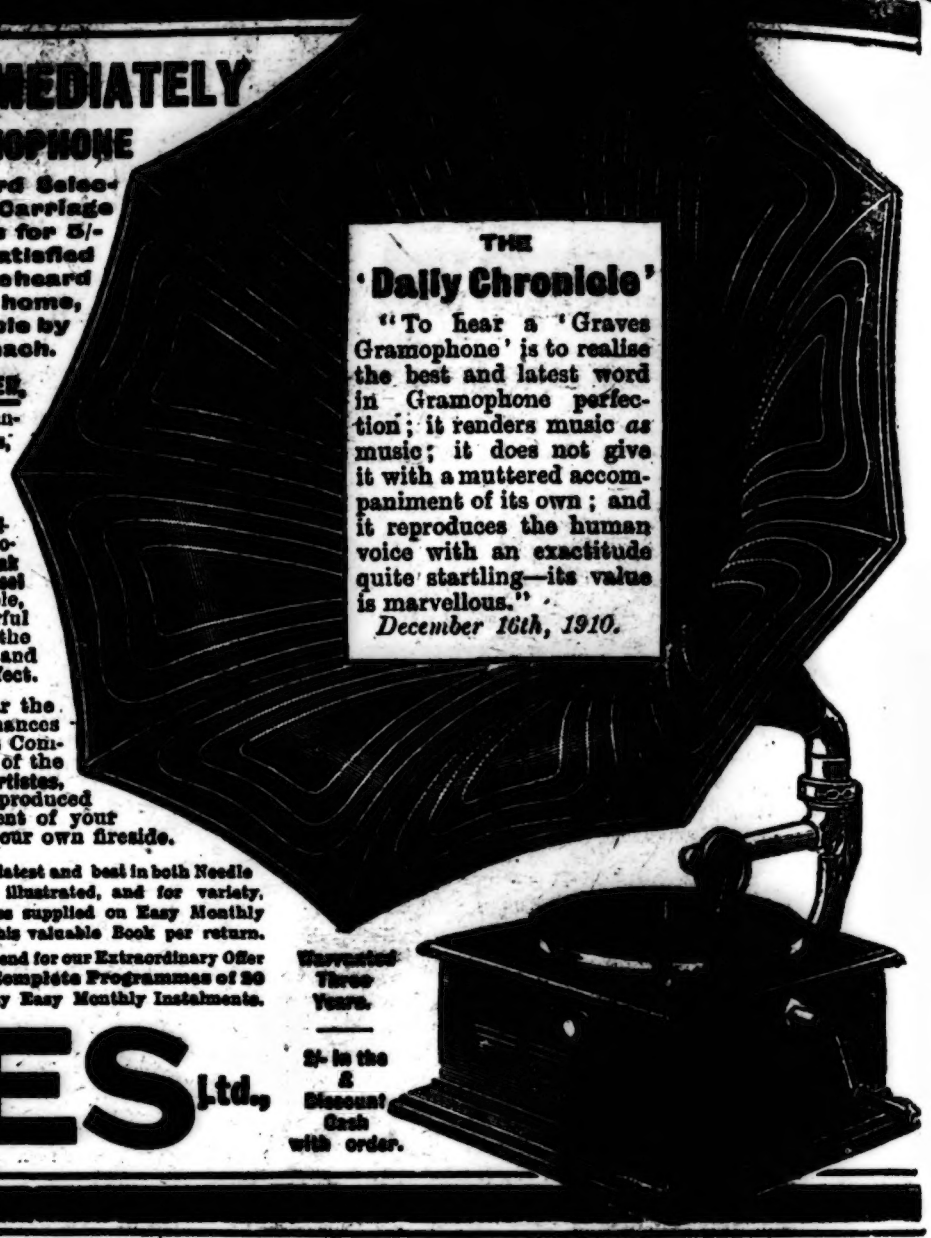
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THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

"PLAIN WORDS TO THE PREMIER."

Under this heading we have ventured, on another page, to tender to Mr. Asquith our respectful and humble advice. The scheme for dealing with the Constitutional crisis is our own. Other papers, please (as usual) copy.

SIR CHARLES DILKE.

The death of Sir Charles Dilke removes from the House of Commons its saddest figure. He had been ill for a long time, and during the last Parliament he aged rapidly. We remember saying to him, in the Tea Room, in November, "We shall want you soon, Sir Charles, for our Business Government." He smiled sadly and said, "You will have to hurry up, then." Prophetic words!

MR. HAROLD COX.

We cannot help wishing Mr. Cox luck in his candidature for Cambridge University. We should like to see him more emphatic in his condemnation of the present Party system, and in favour of a Business Government; but he has a personality, and he does not put his thinking out. Hence we should like to see him back.

THAT BEEF WORM.

When, a few months ago, we called attention to the discovery that Australian beef imported into this country was affected by a malignant worm, necessitating the cutting away of a large portion of the carcase, we were accused of exaggeration. A report just furnished to the Local Government Board, however, puts a startling aspect upon the matter; and we are glad to know that next week *Mrs. Bull* is dealing fully with it.

THE COMING FIGHT.

A fortnight ago we stated that the House of Lords has no intention of swallowing the Veto pill without a struggle. Now, because Mr. Austen Chamberlain has casually hinted at the same thing, the Party Press is treating his utterance as a great revelation. We will tell them something else—those five hundred new peers will never be created.

A POINTER.

What of this Reciprocity Treaty between Canada and America? Is it the beginning of the end? Frankly, we have no faith whatever in Canada's attachment to the "Mother Country." Wait and see!

SEATS FOR THE CORONATION PROCESSION.

We are thinking how, without transgressing the silly Lottery Act, we can distribute amongst our readers a thousand seats to view the Coronation Procession. We think we have done it. More next week.

ANOTHER CONVERT.

Lord Robert Cecil, one of the most persevering of the little band which kept the Conservative flag flying during the 1906–1910 Parliament, is another valuable convert to the futility of the present Party system. He made his confession of faith at the Hampstead Parliament the other day. "I am not convinced that our Party system is the best calculated to secure the best men for the Government. . . . I sat through the long and controversial debates on the Budget Lloyd George is so proud of, and, would you believe it? there were rarely more than a hundred members present out of the 670 who constitute the House! But when the division bells rang there came trooping into the lobbies, from the tea-rooms, the library, the terrace, cohorts of members who had not the ghost of a notion what they were voting about. At the entrance to the voting lobbies stood the Party Whips, who marshalled their followers like so many sheep. That is how the country is treated by its legislators when the most momentous questions are before the House."

AND ANOTHER.

And here is Mr. Jardine, M.P., the new member for East Somerset, telling a festive gathering of Unionists that "Party politics were the curse of the country." We shall look out for Mr. Jardine.

A WOLVERHAMPTON PERVERT.

On the other hand, we find a column in the Wolverhampton *Express and Star* full of hostile criticism. "What is wrong with the Business Government suggestion," we are told, "is that it is superficial in a juvenile sort of way." And then follows this delightful *non sequitur*. "The people who prate about it should read a little philosophy to confuse their minds, and let them feel the truth that the Millennium is not to be brought about by erecting a sign-post somewhere, or by designing a new cap for postmen." We will only add that the article is signed "Roderic Random," and suggest that the names are printed in the wrong order.

FATHER AND SON.

What a fine thing it is to have a father! The Ipswich Guardians have met to appoint a rate-collector, and they have selected Mr. W. E. Calver from among thirty-three candidates responding to the advertisement. It should be mentioned that Mr. W. E. Calver is the son of Mr. W. H. Calver, that Mr. W. H. Calver is the chairman of the Board, and that Mr. W. H. Calver remained in the Board room "by motion of the members" while the proceedings for the election of Mr. W. E. Calver were in progress. Not that Mr. W. H. Calver influenced the decision in any way, mark you. He was merely there to watch the result.

TOO LONG AGO.

With reference to what we recently said in commenting upon the preachment of the Vicar of Harlesden that the Willesden railway accident was the work of the Almighty striving with His people, a gentleman who says he is "A Subscriber from the beginning" retorts in this way: "You say 'No catastrophic God.' May I ask, Who caused the Flood? Who destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah? Who sent the Plague of Frogs? Who smote the first-born in the land of Egypt? Who drowned the Egyptians in the Red Sea?" There are half-a-dozen ways in which these questions could be easily disposed of. Our present answer is that they are not in the case. What we said was that there was no room "in Christianity" for the catastrophic God of the Vicar of Harlesden, and no room for Him in human intelligence. We feel pretty certain on the first point—on the second, we are positive.

ANOTHER THEOLOGIAN.

Some of these theologians—lay and clerical—never seem to realise how absurd they are. Listen to this, the sole unaided work of another defender raised up for that Harlesden vicar. "Can you tell me who can prevent an earthquake, such as those which lately have wrought such terrible suffering to humanity in Italy, Japan, and San Francisco, or the storms which frequently rage over the seas at this time of year, even round and quite near our own coasts?" Frankly, we don't know; but if anybody can prevent such things, why doesn't he?

A PATRIOT.

Recently the M'Cammond, of Belfast, put himself up, or was put up by somebody else, for the Duncairn Ward municipal election. The advertisement columns of a Belfast evening paper tell the rest of the thrilling story. "Duncairn Ward Election," it runs. "Mr. M'Cammond, who so nobly resigned his candidature in favour of the Unionist candidate, for the sake of the cause, and to prevent Socialism, thereby places the city under a deep debt of gratitude never to be forgotten; and also Mrs. M'Cammond, who is associated with him in this action. The M'Cammond family have held a seat in Duncairn Ward for over a quarter of a century—Councillor M'Cammond for the last nine years, his brother, Colonel M'Cammond, for several years, and his father, Sir William M'Cammond, for over twenty years. . . . In resigning his candidature, Councillor M'Cammond wishes to prevent the spread of Socialism, the enemy of the present age." For these and many other reasons to be imagined, we say, "Heaven bless the M'Cammonds, past, present, and to come."

"RELIGION" BEFORE HUMANITY.

The January issue of the *Immanuel Parish Magazine*, Croydon, has an "Offertory Memorandum" which greatly interests us. As thus:—

Nov. 27 ..	118	0	3	Church Missionary Soc.
Dec. 4 ..	..	0	9	1	Sick and Poor.
" " ..	..	4	14	5	Church Expenses.
" 9 ..	..	0	2	6	Sick and Poor.
" 11 ..	..	0	6	11	Sick and Poor.
" " ..	..	8	14	10	Church Expenses.
" 18 ..	..	0	6	6	Sick and Poor.
" " ..	..	7	3	0	Church Expenses.
	£139	17	6	

What with collecting money to convert the heathen and to provide church expenses, the vicar must be pretty busy. If we were the vicar's congregation, we should take the view that charity begins in Croydon. Our reverend friend appears to have convinced them that it starts in Pai-yun-shang, Anjangaon, or Timbuktu.

CORONER'S JURIES AT LEYTONSTONE.

From what we hear, the coroner's officer at Leytonstone is saving himself a lot of trouble by putting the smallest possible number of people to the greatest possible inconvenience. One Leytonstone man has been summoned for jury duty four times in six or seven years, while his neighbours are never summoned at all. Now that the attention of the coroner's officer is drawn to the matter, peradventure he will extend the area of his favours.

ADVERTISING DONE HERE.

Apropos of our reference to that Abingdon J.P. who has a conviction recorded against him, there is another local magistrate who advertises his office and honour by having painted in large and conspicuous letters on his farm and manure carts, "Pannizzi Preston, J.P." Perhaps, however, the flourishing of these mystic letters is intended to act as a warning to the farm labourers not to sleep in the fields—night or day.

THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENT AND "JOHN BULL."

We have been getting into terribly hot water in Canada over some of our recent warnings to intending emigrants. We have been harping on that string for the past four years, but the immediate cause of the rumpus appears to be the article we lately published by Mr. Louis Wain, on "Canada's Death Trap." On January 12th the Canadian Commons took this article into consideration, and after a dozen members had let themselves go, in orthodox fashion, Sir Wilfrid Laurier wound up the debate by declaring that "the article was so palpably false that it would carry no weight, and do no damage to Canada's reputation in England. It was most significant that the article had been denounced by English-born members of the Canadian House, representing western constituencies." Another report tells us that Sir Wilfrid was good enough to also say that "the article was so false that it bore its own refutation, and its malice was so evident that it was well that it should be stigmatised as it had been in the House that day." Why we should be suspected of malice is one of the things we must "give up." We have always published both sides of the question, and only last week we gave extracts from letters criticising the article—the majority of them being adverse to the author's views.

WHAT THE CANADIAN PRESS TELLS US.

But it is distinctly unfortunate for our Canadian critics that the very journals which contain the report of their speeches should also abound with bold headlines which would appear to give some semblance of colour to Mr. Wain's statements. Just listen to these—printed in red ink over the very title of the *Toronto Sunday World*: "Killed Four-year-Old Son—Couldn't Support Him"; "Toronto's Jobless Army—Problem for Authorities." And these from *The Daily Mail and Empire*: "Much Suffering due to Great Cold—Stories of Terrible Hardship from Saskatchewan;" "Whole Mob Seeks Employment where two Men are Needed—Police had to be Called Out to Drive Crowd Away"—and there were not even these vacancies, as the advertisement was a "fake"! Perhaps some member will bring *these* journals before the House.

"AND THEY OFFERED HIM GOLD."

Preaching on a recent Sunday from the text, "And they offered Him gold," the Rev. Paget Davies, vicar of a Brighton church, suggested that the congregation should put nothing except gold on the collection plate, as £33 was needed to pay off a church debt and instal the electric light. It was a golden opportunity for that large and fashionable congregation to save their silver and copper for the necessaries of life, and apparently most of them did. The next time the vicar wants an idea for a collection we suggest he should preach from Proverbs xvii. 8, and then make one of jewellery and precious stones.

TELEPHONE "RECEIVERS."

Is it too much to ask the Postmaster-General to clean out the receivers placed in Public Call-offices? The filth accumulated in some of them has become like an opaque fabric, through which it is often difficult and sometimes impossible for the sound of any human voice to penetrate. What it would look like under the microscope we tremble to think; but surely people who have to use telephones are already sufficiently tried without their being subjected in addition to the risk of tuberculous diseases. A telephone receiver may receive more than is necessary.

"MRS. BULL'S" WONDERFUL SERIAL STORY.

Make a point of reading this. It begins in next Tuesday's issue.

THE MUFFIN MAN.

It is all very well for the Westminster magistrate to inflict a fine on a man for ringing his muffin bell to the annoyance of the inhabitants of that rather aristocratic city, but after all it is very much in the nature of straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel. The muffin man's bell is not quite the noisiest thing in London, and it is a passing nuisance at the best. He rings as he goes, and is soon out of hearing. But what of church bells, especially the one-string sort? What of piano organs, German orchestras, Salvation Army bands, and such abominations of noise and clatter as motor 'buses and motor-cars? In London it is by no means uncommon to have a motor-car or a taxi-cab rumbling and snorting outside one's door for five or ten minutes at a time. For instance, Jones, who won't come home till morning, is too considerate of his wife's feelings to stop the car or the taxi at his own door, so he pulls it up at somebody else's, and the Smiths, Browns, and Robinsons have to suffer in order that Jones's wife may be saved. No, the muffin man, the coal man, the rag-and-bone man, and the rhubarb merchant are tolerable; but as for Jones's chauffeur—well, it is all in the march of progress, we suppose.

DON'T GO TO BATH!

All said, probably the noisiest city on earth is Paris, while London is the quietest. Judging by the complaints of the residents and the action of the local Chamber of Commerce, Bath is trying to compete with Paris. The street noises there are supplied all the week by the unco' bad, and on Sunday by the unco' guid. Then the Salvation Army comes forth to save souls (with drum, trumpet, and concertina). It yells and preaches not far away from the mission band of one of the churches, nearly all of which sacred edifices have powerful bells, and when all are in full blast, and the sound is thrown back by the houses and the surrounding hills, it is enough to make a golfer swear. Bath is pre-eminently sanctimonious and goody-goody. The local parsons, for instance, wildly protested against a sacred concert given last Good Friday at the Roman Promenade. They howled down the Sunday cinematograph shows. And if it were proposed to let a band play on Sunday in the Promenade or the park, all the ecclesiastical thunders would begin to roll. Why should the parsons interfere with the amusements of the alleged ungodly, and yet be allowed to afflict the soul of Bath, and empty the houses, by their bell-clanging? Why is pulling bell-ropes half an hour before each service on Sunday a holy and Christian occupation, and the Sunday concert or band a wile and craft of the Devil?

NO CROSS, NO CROWN.

We have all to bear our crosses, but we don't always get our crowns. Jane and John Cooper, charged at Highgate a few days since with hawking lavender without pedlars' certificates, were more fortunate. John is a decent, respectable chap, and, being down on his luck, he and his wife were caught by a policeman selling lavender, in the hope of scraping together enough money to get a little stock of oranges which they could sell without a licence, these being "perishable articles." "I will give you 5s. to start you with some oranges and lemons," quoth the Highgate cadi. "You are discharged." The name of that kind-hearted cadi we know not, otherwise it would have given us pleasure to spell it out in full. A blessing on him for that crown, and the heart behind the crown. Who says we are unbending enemies of the magisterial bench?

Guardians, Law, and Hocus-Pocus.

Somebody has defined law as a hocus-pocus science, because it smiles in your face while it picks your pocket; and probably the porter at Walsingham workhouse believes it. A few days ago he was called into the board room by the guardians, and there informed by the Rev. T. E. Platten, the chairman, that as he had voluntarily resigned, the guardians could not grant him compensation allowance, notwithstanding his 28 years' service, nor could they allow him a return of the money he had paid into the superannuation fund, "which they regretted, considering the excellent way he had performed his duties." It is a scandalous shame that the ratepayers, or the Government, should be allowed to steal the porter's money in this barefaced way. If a footpad did it, he would be prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the law, probably get six months—and deserve it.

Those Turtles.

A correspondent who has been taking a great interest in turtles informs us that they are unloaded at Paddington Station with great care in plenty of straw, and judicious persons are there to turn them on their backs if they get too lively. But he has noticed that they all have "holes in the fins, or legs, generally bleeding." He was informed that this was due to their being nailed down through the fins to the deck of the ship during their journey. We have not the faintest idea whether someone has been pulling his leg, but, if not, this is surely a matter which ought to be enquired into by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Restless Spirits at Weston-super-Mare.

Judging by his advertisement in the *Weston-super-Mare Gazette*, there is an old party in that place who yearns for company. "Would a Godly Lady," he asks, "like to Share Household Expenses with an Old Gentleman? Would need a little furniture. References, etc." "Wanted," runs another advertisement in the same paper, "Two large, bright Rooms, Unfurnished preferred, with Board and Attendance, in a family who love the Lord; no children." Has there been a Revivalist campaign at Weston-super-Mare recently?

A Reverend Blackguard.

Most people will agree that the Rev. Charles Johnson is in his proper place at last. It is clear from the story of his career that he is one of those professional humbugs in Holy Orders who disgrace the name of religion. He was divorced by his first wife. In a false name he created a scandal in respect of two young women while holding a curacy at Southall. At the time he obtained the curacy at St. Gabriel's, Canning Town, by false pretences, he was under episcopal suspension, and yet be performed marriage ceremonies, and undertook other religious duties, for a week, and then cleared out, and now he is convicted of obtaining money from a fellow clergyman by fraud. It is clear he is a disgrace to the cloth he wears and a defilement to the altars at which he ministered. The duty of the Bishop is clear: the Church must once and for all be freed of the shame of including this man among her clergy. Meanwhile, the sentence of six months' imprisonment fairly meets the case, the hardest and cruellest feature of which is that his sins are visited on his poor wife and children.

Caruso!

Apparently Caruso is also among the cynics—a cynic being a man who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing. "I am a great singer," he has been telling the New York reporters, "because I have always remained a bachelor; no man can sing unless he smiles, and I should never smile if I married." He evidently thinks marriage is no joke.

An Eccentric Judge?

Who is the Judge of the West London County Court? In a recent slander case, after the jury had found a verdict, with damages, for the plaintiff, the Judge entered judgment for the defendant on the ground of "privilege." Why the dickens didn't he do so before asking the jury for a verdict? As one of them says, he "would like to know why eight men should be taken from their business and sit six hours in Court, carefully considering the evidence, and giving a conscientious verdict, if it is to be reversed by the Judge." But perhaps the jury were asked to say if the plaintiff had been actuated by malice. That is why we have placed a note of interrogation after the heading of this paragraph.

A Happy Family.

"Is it customary," asks a Wells reader, "for a Post Office staff to be composed chiefly of one family? In this little city of five thousand inhabitants we have as under:—(1) Postmaster; (2) clerk (his nephew); (3) driver of mail cart (brother); (4) sub-Postmaster (brother-in-law); (5) postman (cousin); (6) postman (cousin); (7) postman (nephew)." We cannot say that it is "customary," but we have heard of such things before, and doubtless shall continue to hear of them—till we get that Business Government!

St. Giles's Christian Mission.

Recently a correspondent complained to us that he could not obtain a balance sheet, or the names of the subscribers, from Mr. William Wheatley, the Superintendent of St. Giles's Christian Mission. Mr. Wheatley tells us that there is nothing whatever in the complaint. His answer is explicit and categorical. He says that from its commencement the Mission has had a committee and has published annual reports containing income and expenditure accounts. "Subscribers receive a copy each year, the only exception being those who give anonymously or very small amounts, but it is open for any of these to apply for one." The inference from this is that our correspondent subscribes nothing to speak of, or never applied for a balance sheet. In either event, he is out of Court.

Strangers Not Admitted.

Recently the County Council at Houghton-le-Spring had occasion to advertise for a clerk. Three hundred applications were sent in. It took the Council about half-an-hour to make their selection, their choice falling upon a nephew of the vice-chairman. A somewhat similar case we refer to elsewhere. In another instance, the son-in-law of a guardian was elected as registrar by a show of hands, the father-in-law being in the chair. It seems a waste of time and money to advertise these vacancies on public bodies; but if it is necessary to salvation, why not add at the end of the advertisement, "Only relatives of members need apply"?

Draughts and Worship.

Some of the worshippers have been complaining that they dare not attend Berwick Baptist Church on account of the draughts. "No doubt the draughts are sometimes bad," replied from his pulpit the Rev. J. Lamb Harvey, the pastor, "but we hope to remedy that. There are plenty of draughts in the pulpit, and yet I am still alive." But those draughts probably affect only his legs. There are people who would rather miss a thousand sermons than have a stiff neck.

The New Government Offices.

In reprinting Lord Crewe's summons to the faithful few Liberal peers to attend the Opening of Parliament, the *South Wales Daily News* dates his epistle from the "India Office, Whitechapel." But surely it is the Home Office which was temporarily removed there?

THE PRESS COMING ROUND.

Last week we suggested, apropos of the annexation by the *Star* of our proposal for an Estimates Committee, and of the discovery by the *Westminster Gazette* of the fact that there are large unclaimed sums in the hands of bankers, that the *Daily Chronicle* or the *Daily News* should suggest the formation of a Business Government. And, sure enough, the *Chronicle* is taking the hint. At any rate, it has been busy with interviews and articles suggesting the necessity for a Committee of the House of Commons to check the Estimates.

THE *Economist* JOINS FORCES.

And here is the *Economist* telling us that "a well-chosen permanent Committee to criticise Estimates before they are finally launched might be the right substitute for Treasury control—especially if it were authorised to examine extravagant public servants in public." We welcome our contemporary's valuable assistance, but are afraid that the Public Examination of Public Servants is too bold an innovation.

AN INFAMOUS LIBEL.

We are instituting criminal proceedings against a weekly journal which has had the wicked audacity to impugn our *bona fides* in connection with the subscriptions which generous readers send for the benefit of our "Human Documents." We are not thin-skinned, but we must draw the line *somewhere*.

THIS WEEK'S "CHESTNUT":—

The curate took for his text the feeding of 5,000 people on five loaves and two fishes, but unfortunately reversed the figures—whereupon Pat was heard to remark, "Shure, anyone could do that."

The following week, remembering his mistake, the curate preached from the same text, and, reading it out correctly, remarked quietly to Pat, "Well, you couldn't do *that*." Whereupon Pat replied, "And shure I could out of what was left over from last Sunday."

FOREIGN WAITER, TO UNEMPLOYED ENGLISH DITTO: "WHY NOT EMIGRATE, OLD CHAP? YOU MIT GET A JOB IN MY COUNTRY."

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

AGE.—Biscuits are not given to general servants "2 to 22," or to veterans of 8 years of age. The ages of the former are often inscrutable, while the latter may be enjoying their second childhood.

PATENT MEDICINES.—We do not give biscuits to patent medicine vendors for the injunction to the public to get "the same pills as Mr. Robinson had."

BRIDEGROOMS.—No more wedding cake for these harmless, necessary adjuncts when they go away "in a costume of rose vieux, trimmed with glace, with a hat to match." They evidently foresee who is destined to wear the breeches, and they are lucky to get away at all

MARRIAGES IN THE DEATHS' COLUMN.—No biscuits for these. They are often the grave of love.

LODGERS.—No biscuits for widows who want young men to share room. Most of them do.

For advertising in the "Uxbridge Gazette," "Packer and Sorter Wanted, ABLE TO PACK LARGE FAMILIES, *must be careful and accurate,"*

THE BROOKLYN MODEL LAUNDRY (Northcroft Road, Ealing)

TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that all Mr. Lloyd George's public engagements are postponed "until his throat is completely REMOVED,"

THE WEEKLY SCOTSMAN

TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For writing, in an article in the "Labour Leader," "Finally let me add a FOREWORD,"

Mr. G. N. BARNES, M.P.;

TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, in a dramatic criticism, that a certain character "made us feel that she would put her foot down WITH A HEAVY HAND,"

THE REFEREE

TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that a certain girl "greatly puzzles the inhabitants of Koeroesbanya, in Southern Hungary, for wherever she stands or walks stones and pieces of wood fall from the sky UPON HER, *but* WITHOUT *hurting or even* HITTING HER,"

THE MORNING LEADER

TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following sentence: "Mr. Justice Hamilton, and Mr. Justice Avory decided, on an appeal from a decision of Bromley justices a person described as a jobbing gardener published at one shilling net, will be presented free to every lady paying for admission,"

THE WORCESTERSHIRE ADVERTISER

TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For referring to "a small air-filled VACUUM,"

THE NEWCASTLE EVENING CHRONICLE

TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For proposing (according to the "Crowle Advertiser") the toast of "The Queen, Prince and PRINCESS OF WALES *and other members of the Royal Family,"*

Mr. C. H. FELLS (of Thorne)

TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For reporting in its issue of January 19th a lecture by the Rev. T. R. Norgate WHICH DID NOT TAKE PLACE TILL JANUARY 24TH,"

THE REIGATE AND REDHILL GAZETTE

TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that the playing of Naches, the famous violinist, "is UNEQUALLED BY FEW *and* UNEXCELLED BY NONE,"

THE TORQUAY DIRECTORY

TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing that "The Crown PRINCE *of Sweden gave birth to a daughter on Monday morning,"*

THE ISLE OF WIGHT GUARDIAN

TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its issue dated January 23rd that "The Coronation of His Majesty King George V. and of Queen Mary will take place on the 22nd of June NEXT *year,"*

THE PEOPLE'S FRIEND

TAKES THE BISCUIT.

PLAIN WORDS TO THE PREMIER.

By Horatio Bottomley, M.P.

I am one of Mr. Asquith's warmest admirers. As a parliamentarian, a debater and a speaker, he has no equal in the House of Commons. Incisive, resourceful, and ever courteous, he is the best parliamentary leader the Liberal party has had for twenty-five years. If on the public platform he is less immediately effective than Lloyd George, it is because his heart is more under the control of his head than is the case with his Welsh colleague. But it is a purely transient disadvantage. For one person who hears a speech, a thousand read it—and no speeches "read" better than those of Mr. Asquith. And let no one think that he is lacking in emotional qualities. Nothing could be more erroneous than the popular idea to this effect. I have seen fierce struggles between head and heart going on behind that strong human face. If the head has always won, the fact is no discredit to the heart. He is, indeed, one of the most human men in the House of Commons. He is also one of the most sagacious, and, withal, one of the most broad-minded. I remember meeting him one day during the debates on the Licensing Bill. I expressed regret that I had been compelled to oppose him. "Never mind," came the generous reply, "I always like to hear a case well put." That is the man.

I sometimes wonder whether he really thinks the present Party system worth preserving. He will, I hope, forgive me when I say that more than once, during the past few years, I have seen him debasing a brilliant intellect by indulging in special pleading in the interests of the Game. He has hated doing it, and I have observed with what mental and moral disdain he has received the loud cheers of his followers when, in deference to Party exigencies, he has fanned their fanaticism and pandered to their partisan prejudices by a string of sophistries and a pæan of platitudes.

I am the advocate of a Business Government, but as a practical man, I recognise that the Party system under which we live is not to be broken down in a day, or a year. It will have to be gradually leavened with this new principle—and that Party will last longest which most liberally assimilates it. I put it to Mr. Asquith that now is his opportunity. Let him shed some of the melancholy mediocrities of his Ministry, and, without too rigid a regard to Party tradition, replace them by men of personality, energy, initiative and experience.

The Constitutional Crisis.

I ask him to look this thing boldly in the face, and deceive neither himself nor his followers. Remembering, first, that only half of the adult male population of the country has expressed its view, let him recognise this primary and fundamental fact—honours are easy. Never mind the parliamentary majority—that is but an accident of our clumsy, unscientific and unbusiness-like electoral machinery. Excluding the Irish vote, the difference between the totals of the rival sides is not worth considering. Why do I exclude the Irish party? For this simple reason—they openly avow that they care nothing about the constitutional crisis; that our difficulties are their opportunity: they admit, with perfect candour, that they have but one interest in our quarrel with the Lords—to secure Home Rule; and when they have got it—well, the British Constitution may take care of itself. Now, no responsible statesman is entitled to include a vote given in such a spirit as a serious expression of public opinion. The real result, therefore, is, for all practical purposes, a dead-heat. And I am even then assuming that the issue at the Election was clear and definite, unaffected by any consideration other than that of the Peers' veto. Mr. Asquith will know, as well as anyone, how far such an assumption is justified. What, then, is his plain duty? To drop the preamble of the Parliament Bill, as suggested by some of his supporters, and, throwing over all idea of a reformed Second Chamber, go bald-headed for the Veto? If he does that, he will make the biggest mistake of his life. The Unionists will say, and rightly say, that the Parliament Bill, as a whole, was before the country at the Election, and that the Government has no right to now mutilate it by truncating one of its most vital parts. Besides, *why* shy at reform of the Lords? They are in the mood to consider it. Strike the iron while it is hot. Let us have a real Senate. One thing is fairly certain. Whilst the Commons are discussing the Parliament Bill, the Lords will be discussing a Reform Bill, and the two measures will probably meet in the corridor on their way to the Commons and the Lords, respectively. And what then? Confronted with its own preamble, the Government will be bound to consider the Reform Bill. If they do not, the Lords will be justified in rejecting the Parliament Bill *and His Majesty will not be justified in creating a batch of new Peers to force its passage.*

What Should be Done.

What should be done? To my untutored mind, the answer is obvious. We all want to clear the road for a joyful Coronation. We all wish to help our new King in the difficult task which has so suddenly fallen upon his shoulders. And we must get this thing out of the way before June. How is it to be done? This is my crude idea. Let each House, as soon as possible, in the coming session, consider its own Bill; let the Bills be sent "up" and "down" respectively not later than May; and then let them both be referred to a Joint Committee of the two Houses, with a view to their being consolidated in one comprehensive measure, dealing once and for all with the whole question. Such a Committee, of which the Speaker and the Lord Chancellor should be *ex-officio* members, and which should comprise men of all Parties, would, I am sure, be able before the end of the session to agree upon a fair and workable Bill—establishing a responsible Second Chamber, with ample provision for dealing with any difference which might at any time arise between it and the House of Commons. A Veto Bill from the Commons; a Reformed Second Chamber Bill from the Lords; a Joint Committee and a Consolidated measure dealing with both Veto and Reform—there is the Business policy.

House of Commons Reform.

And what of the House of Commons? Let us drop cant, and admit that it is quite as much in need of reform as the Lords. Let Mr. Asquith take steps to remove the anomaly of one member representing fifty thousand electors, and another fifteen hundred; of one half of the male adult population being political outlanders. Let Members of Parliament cease to be parts of a mere voting machine. Take Finance—here are we M.P.'s solemnly protesting that the Lords must not interefere with our Budgets—that we are the sole guardians of the nation's purse—and yet every year, between fifty and sixty millions of money is automatically voted away *without any kind of examination or one moment's discussion.* I remember Mr. Asquith, shortly before the Liberals came into power in 1906, describing this condition of things as "nothing more or less than a creeping and progressing paralysis of the parliamentary organism." That paralysis has now become chronic, and although Mr. Asquith has been in office for five years, he has never raised a finger to stop it. On the contrary, I recall how, when a year ago I directed his attention to the matter, he coolly told me that "the Minister at the head of each Department was responsible for its Estimates, subject to the control of the House of Commons sitting in Committee of Supply." That is one of the instances I had in my mind when I said that I had seen Mr. Asquith debasing his intellect in the interests of the Party Game.

THE WAIL OF A MEDICAL MAN.

A BRIGHTON DOCTOR'S WARNING.

A Brighton surgeon, moved by reading the Human Document in which a medical man recently described his plight, writes to us as follows:—

In a recent issue you describe the distressing condition to which a doctor and his family are reduced. As this case is by no means an isolated one, perhaps you will allow me, as a practitioner of thirty-five years' standing, to give your million readers the cause which has reduced members of the profession to simple starvation. This can be done in three words, viz., "the abuse of charity." Thirty-five years ago, when I became a qualified surgeon, a medical man could squat (as it is termed) in a London suburb or a town, and easily earn £300 a year in his first year of practice. In these days, if he earned £50 during the same period he would be lucky. In every town and suburb, provident dispensaries are set up, ostensibly for the use of the poor, but which are used by those well able to afford to pay for medical attendance. I could give you hundreds of instances from my own experience, but two will suffice: A master builder engaged in extensive building operations in London and having a first-class season-ticket from Brighton to London, is allowed free attendance from the dispensary. In the second case, I was called to see a child, and, after examining my patient, asked a girl present where the parents were. She replied, "At the opera, but I need not call again, as they were promised a dispensary letter," and, of course, I received no fee. I wrote to the secretary of the dispensary, who replied that he saw no harm in the parents having innocent amusement. Neither did I; but I did object to going two miles for nothing, while the parents of my patient were enjoying French opera.

In Brighton and other towns, letters for free medical attendance are scattered broadcast by firms to their customers, many of whom could buy and sell the unfortunate medical man from whom they receive gratuitous medical attendance. In a few years the general practitioner will be as extinct as the dodo. A few may survive as they do now by (1) the possession of a rich wife, (2) private means of their own, (3) the show being run by what they term a resident patient (*i.e.*, lodger). This last method is very much in evidence just now and accounts for the semblance of prosperity which deceives the public and hides the real state of affairs in the profession. You will be doing real service to fathers of families of boys who may think of entering their sons into the medical profession, by exposing what is the true condition of general practice. In regard to the services medicine offers a good career.

"AN EX-OFFICER—AND AN EX-GENTLEMAN."

In reference to the paragraph under this heading in our last issue, Mr. Hill, the ex-lieutenant who was assaulted, has seen us, and made a statement which considerably modifies the opinion we then expressed. He says that twelve months ago, while employed by an Insurance Company, he was requested by the manager to say what he knew about Major Westmacott, who was desirous of entering its service. Mr. Hill thereupon candidly told the manager what he had heard, explaining, however, that he could not vouch for its accuracy. Now, after this long lapse of time, comes the violent assault upon him, while he is still suffering from the effects of serious wounds received during the South African war. It is, of course, obvious that the commercial community would be very much hampered were persons giving honest "references" not to receive the full protection of the law, either in regard to their purses or their persons—and we are sorry that the full facts were not laid before the magistrates.

MARYLEBONE BAILIFFS.

With reference to our criticisms of the way in which the Marylebone Bailiffs neglect to execute summonses, a correspondent, who knows what he is talking about, suggests that we should ask Sir H. L. Selfe—the County Court Judge who was so pained at the reference to the shortcomings of Bailiffs in these columns—if he will tell us how many of his Bailiffs have been discharged within the last four years for irregularities which included tearing up summonses. It seems to us that, anyway until recently, the Bailiffs in the Marylebone district have been grossly neglectful of their duty.

BEWARE OF AUSTRALIAN BEEF!

For a grave warning as to the danger of eating Australian Beef, see next week's MRS. BULL.

THE "LITERARY" BUREAU.

A READER'S EXPERIENCE.

We have several times warned our readers against having anything to do with the "Literary" Bureau, of 17, Ranelagh Avenue, Fulham—the address of an old-established gang carrying on a notorious swindle under the title of "The Imperial Art Supply Company"—and a reader now gives his experience of them. Upon complying with their offer for the sum of 2s. 6d. to put him in communication with a "genuine home employment firm," he heard from some advertising agents in Surrey, inviting him to buy a £1 share in a new monthly magazine, which would entitle him to write postcards, for the purpose of getting out the publication, for the remuneration of ten shillings per thousand. Upon completing the first week's work, he could for some time obtain no answer to letters asking where he should deliver it. He was then informed that the magazine had gone smash. He is thus out of pocket to the extent of £1 5s. 10d.—they charged him 3s. 4d. for the cards—to say nothing of payment for his trouble.

We can only repeat our previous comment, that it is time some "home work" was secured for these people—by the police.

LEVER BROTHERS.

AN OBJECTIONABLE EXAMINATION.

The Secretary of the Birkenhead and District Building Trades Federation has written to us to complain of the system of medical examination in vogue at Messrs. Lever Bros.', Port Sunlight, which is considered a great and unnecessary humiliation by members of the building trades in particular.

It seems that before a man is taken on he has to undergo a medical examination. He is compelled to strip naked and be tested for enlarged veins, slight rupture, and a hundred and one defects of which before he had no suspicion, and this for, it may be, only a few days' or weeks' work.

Some correspondence passed between the Federation and Mr. Lever, who says:—

> I have made enquiries and find that the system of medical examination carried on by the Doctors at Port Sunlight is believed by them to be the usual one, and is not in any case so severe as the medical examination to be undergone by the applicants for the Police and Post Office. Arrangements, however, were made before my return, and a screen will be erected, and I think this will meet your objection. I am very glad you wrote me on the subject because though this is a small matter it is an important one, and I am very anxious that everything should be done without even the suggestion of annoyance.

We do not quite see how a "small" matter can be an "important" one, but the main thing is that Mr. Lever seems to be willing to make examination less offensive to sensitive men, though he does not seem to see his way to abolish it entirely.

THE LATE MRS. EDDY.

THE RESURRECTION STORY OFFICIALLY DENIED.

We have received the following letter from Mr. Frederick Dixon, the District Manager of the Christian Science Committees on Publication:—

> Will you permit me to point out to you, with reference to the note on Mrs. Eddy in your issue of the 21st January, that you are entirely mistaken in the impression that Christian Scientists are waiting to witness a resurrection? The Christian Science movement is engaged in going on attempting to fulfil the teaching of Mrs. Eddy in overcoming sorrow, and sickness, and sin.
>
> As for what Mrs. Eddy herself taught about death, it is very simple, and is summed up on page 55 of her book, "Unity of Good," in the following words:—"I have by no means spoken of myself, I cannot speak of myself, as 'sufficient for these things.' I insist only upon the fact, as it exists in Divine Science, that man dies not, and on the words of the Master in support of this verity—words which can never 'pass away till all be fulfilled.'"

BEWARE OF THE MORMONS!—III.

ARE THEY HOME-WRECKERS AND DECOYERS OF YOUNG GIRLS?

Our Special Commissioner Interviews the Mormon Elders.

During the past three weeks I have spent many hours with Mormon elders, discussing their religion with them; for if one wishes to know what Mormonism is, one cannot do better than go to a Mormon.

Both Mormon and anti-Mormon claim to be Christians, and each claims that his church is the embodiment of truth. Be that as it may, I can testify that I have never seen so much scheming to evade truth, and manœuvring to gain points, as I have done during the past three weeks, by these Mormons.

Mormon Activity in York.

Some time ago, in the city of York, a really excellent servant-girl listened to the voice of the charmer, in the shape of a rather handsome young Mormon missionary, dressed in clerical garb. Despite the entreaties and warnings of her mistress, she joined the Latter-Day Saints. She was sent out to Salt Lake, since when nothing has been heard of her.

A year or so ago, a Newcastle lady, who was then living in the country, stopped to listen to the preaching of a pair of Mormon missionaries. She was the only listener—the villagers as a class refused to hear the Mormons. Afterwards, the men called at her house. They soon found out that she was a young widow with a fair amount of good looks and property. The lady left the village and went to reside with her mother in Newcastle-on-Tyne. The Mormons turned up there during the mother's absence. Visit after visit followed, the mother scented danger and ordered the men in peremptory tones not to come near the house any more. Meeting the young lady at the gate, they remarked that her mother was a most angelic creature! The acquaintance continued. The charming widow became a "sister," and was addressed as such. Matters now moved rapidly, the widow sold out all her property, consisting of houses and other valuable goods. Then came the end; one day she left for Salt Lake.

Interviews With President of European Mission.

I have had two long interviews with Mr. Rudger Clawson, the President of the European Mission, and the same number of interviews with Mr. Monson, the head of the London Mission. I need hardly say that both these gentlemen are highly indignant at being charged with being "destroyers of homes," and "decoyers of young girls." The mass of Mormon literature that I have read is enormous. Their annual bill for this alone must be considerable. With that literature before me, I marked certain passages, and on these I questioned closely President Clawson.

Polygamy.

"Do you practise or preach polygamy?" I asked.

"No, we don't," was his reply.

"Then how do you account for this?" I asked, quoting him "An Epistle from the First Presidency to the officers and members of the church," dated October 6th, 1885, as follows:—

> We did not reveal celestial marriage. We cannot withdraw or renounce it. God revealed it and He has promised to maintain it and to bless those who obey it. Whatever fate, then, may threaten us, there is but one course for men of God to take; that is, to keep inviolate the holy covenants they have made in the presence of God and angels. For the remainder, whether it be life or death, freedom or imprisonment, prosperity or adversity, we trust in God. We may say, if any man or woman expects to enter into the celestial kingdom of our God without making sacrifices and without being tested to the very uttermost, they have not understood the Gospel.
>
> Upwards of forty years ago the Lord revealed to His Church the principle of celestial marriage. The idea of marrying more wives than one was as naturally abhorrent to the leading men and women of the Church, at that day, as it could be to any people. They shrank from the bare thought of entering into such relationship with dread. But the command of God was before them in language which no faithful soul dare disobey. "For behold I reveal unto you a new and everlasting covenant; and if ye abide not that covenant, then are ye damned; for no one can reject this covenant and be permitted to enter into My glory."

The reply of the President was that the Mormons were a law-abiding people, and that although God had revealed to them that it was right and proper to have plural wives, they obeyed the law of the United States.

"I put it to you, Mr. Clawson," I continued, "that the Mormons only obey the law of the United States, on the question of plural marriages, because they know they would get punished if they practised them?" No answer.

"Let me put it to you in another way, then: Here is a quotation from your 'doctrine of covenants':—

> And again, as pertaining to the law of the Priesthood: if any man espouse a virgin, and desire to espouse another, and the first gives her consent; and if he espouse the second and they are virgins, and have vowed to no other man, then is he justified; he cannot commit adultery, for they are given unto him; for he cannot commit adultery with that which belongeth to him and to no one else. And if he have ten virgins given unto him by this law, he cannot commit adultery, for they belong to him, and they are given unto him, therefore is he justified.

"Now listen," I continued. "Suppose the Mormon Church had power to carry out its own doctrines, would it practise polygamy?" A little hesitation at first; then I pressed for an answer. It was "Yes." There is now no doubt whatever, for I have it from the lips of the President of the European Mission, that the Mormons believe in polygamy, and only refrain from practising it because there is the restraining hand of the law.

I placed before Mr. Clawson a copy of the *Salt Lake Tribune* of August 1st, 1910, which gives the names of over 200 Mormons who have taken to themselves plural wives since the manifesto forbidding it was issued.

"What have you got to say?" I asked.

"Publication of those names is no proof," he replied.

"Any libel actions been entered by these people?"

His answer was that he did not know.

"Now what about this case, Mr. Clawson, also reported in the *Salt Lake Tribune?*"

> Elder Miles A. Romney, of Juarez, Mexico, married as his first wife Miss Frances Turley, and since the manifesto of 1890 has married three sisters in new polygamy. He married Little Burrell as his second wife about 1896. About the year 1900 he married Lizzie Burrell, and on November 3rd, 1909, he married Emma Burrell (all three being sisters) as his fourth wife. This latter marriage occurred in the Manti, Utah Temple, the ceremony being performed by President Anderson, of that institution. The latter girl had been previously married in monogamy to a respectable young Mormon named Thomas, who lived at Juarez, but she was induced to leave him and marry Romney, through the teaching of their latter and other elders that she could be saved only by means of obedience to the polygamic doctrine and commanded practice.

Mr. Clawson could give me no further information on the matter. He promised to make enquiries.

ASYLUM ATTENDANTS.

HOURS OF WORK AND RATE OF PAY AT THE IPSWICH AND THREE COUNTIES ASYLUMS.

Commenting upon our reference to this matter in our issue of January 14th, a correspondent writes :—

I should like to draw your attention and the attention of the public to the duty, leave, and wages of the staff of the Ipswich Borough Asylum. The wages of the nurses start at £17 per annum, the attendants at £27 per annum; and out of this 3 per cent. is deducted for superannuation purposes under the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act of April, 1910.

Then as regards the hours of duty at the Ipswich Borough Asylum. The hours of duty in the winter are 13½ daily. The staff have to be on duty at 6 a.m., and are on duty till 7.30 p.m. If there is a dance or concert they have to do 1½ hours extra, and sometimes more. There is a dance every fortnight, and those whose evening it is out have to give that night up. The hours of duty in the summer are from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The hours of leave are one afternoon a week, that is, from 2.15 p.m. till 7.30, and that is called half-a-day. They have one Sunday in a month; and once in a calendar month, when it is their afternoon off, they get the morning off as well. Therefore, in a month of 30 days there are 405 working hours. Out of this the staff get 42¾ hours' leave; so that, roughly speaking, they work about 362 hours, which I consider far too many.

The rate of pay and hours of work certainly seem to need revision. We have received the following letter upon the same subject :—

Allow me to call your attention to the state of things as they exist in the Three Counties Asylum at the present time.

A male attendant commences at a salary of £27 per annum (subject to deductions under the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act), in addition to board, lodging, washing and uniform.

If married, nothing is allowed for lodging out.

The duties commence at 6 a.m. and finish at 7 p.m. one night and 8 p.m. the next, alternately, with the exception of fire brigade duty, which happens as a rule every six days, sometimes oftener, when 10 p.m. is the time for going off duty.

As most of the married attendants live from a mile to two away, imagine the time they have with their wives and children.

In addition to the above, there is an entertainment given weekly for the patients' benefit, which lasts until 9 p.m., which means 9.30 before the inmates are safe in bed. It is no new occurrence to have two entertainments in one week.

It is no uncommon thing for an attendant to do 100 hours in a week.

The leave granted is two whole days a month and two half-days—every other Sunday—leave having to be taken when it is the attendant's early night out.

In the case of nurses they are allowed one whole day per month and four half-days, to be taken on early nights; so that when going off duty at 2 p.m. for a half-day, they really get five hours, as of course they would be off duty at 7 p.m. unless there was an entertainment.

As regards the living. Amongst other things, butter is allowed at the rate of half pound per head per week; in that case one gets no bacon, but if having bacon, half pound per week is allowed, and a quarter pound of butter.

Cake is unknown, as also is jam; one pound of bread is allowed per day. Thus for breakfast one has half a pound of bacon to last seven days, and a quarter of a pound of butter to last seven teas.

P.S.—1s. per day is allowed when on annual leave, in lieu of rations.

"PITY THE POOR EDITOR!"

MORE GEMS FROM OUR LETTER BAG.

Can you recommend me to a bootmaker who can supply really good quality boots?

What is the rate of exchange for converting kronen into dollars?

What is the length of service in the German navy?

Would you be so kind as to inform me the name and address of the Agents and Owners of Western Africa, otherwise the White Man's Grave?

Will you oblige me with the population and percentage of unemployed of England, New York and Berlin, also the tax on corn in the two latter cities?

See next Tuesday's "MRS. BULL" for particulars of a great Australian Beef scandal.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CXXVII.

THE SAD STORY OF AN OLD REGENT STREET SHOP EMPLOYEE.

The following touching letter—the truth of the statements in which we have fully confirmed—has been sent to us in the hope that we may find the writer—an excellent needlewoman and cutter—some light employment, so as to enable her to get together a small home :—

In 1882 I held the best position a woman could hold at Messrs. Jays, Regent Street. In that year I gave it up to marry Mr.——, holding an equally good position at Messrs. Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge.

Almost from the first he ill-used me. In 1887 my son D. was born; in 1889 my son C. was born—the only children I have.

Constantly my husband injured me, for no apparent cause—merely his violent temper—and my relations being hundreds of miles away, he did it all the more. Of course, his conduct got to the ears of Messrs. Harvey Nichols: they cautioned him, but of no avail. Another brutal assault on me, and he was dismissed from there. For fourteen years I lived in my own house; he sold it over my head and spent the money. He is now in Canada, and has got my elder son out there as his right hand man. This son served his apprenticeship in Newgate Street to the furnishing business—the same business as his father's. Surely it is a crush after he had twenty years of my life. On the night before he deserted me, although I was very ill, he assaulted me. I remained in the house three months, and left—out of debt. My landlord befriended me until I got some work to do. This was in 1902. Since then I have struggled on—sometimes in work, sometimes not. In 1905 I had to go into the Chelsea Hospital, quite broken up, and was there for thirteen weeks. When I came out I found my little home gone—taken by the people who I thought would take care of it for me—a soldier on pension and his wife. I had nothing left except the clothes I had on me. Again I struggled on.

My husband left his second son to do the best he could when I became very poor. I lost sight of him in 1906, but—knowing nothing of my desperate plight—he has just written from Allahabad that his health has failed him, and he is now a poor invalid in distress. He has, he says, had a very hard time of it, and dreams only of coming back. Alas, this is quite impossible! What a shock he would have if he were to know my position!

I may mention that in January of last year I was in a destitute state, and applied to the Charity Organisation Society, as I felt entitled to some help. They raked up all and every information concerning my life for years past, and after a long time sent a letter to say they could not help me, even though I would have paid them when I got some employment.

The friends who knew me when I was well off soon failed to remember me when adversity came.

I am at present run down through the last work I have done—namely, fourteen hours and a half each day for the sum of one shilling.

It is a very sad case. Any pecuniary assistance or offers of work we will gladly forward.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named :—

CXXI.—E. C. G., 1s.

CXXIII.—"For Luck," 20s.

CXXIV.—"X. Y. Z.," 5s.; "Walter," 5s.; K. E. B., 5s.; "Leicester," 2s.; W. H. B., 2s. 6d.; B. J. W., 3s.; L. C., 5s. V. R., 5s.; O. F., 20s.; M. E. A. and "Well-Wisher," parcels of clothing.

CXXV.:—"Honest Freemason," 5s.; "Ann Inconnu," 2s. 6d.; E. and A., 1s.; "Family Man," 5s.; "Anonymous" (Dublin), 10s.

CXXVI.:—"One that Feels Sorry," 2s. 6d.; "Thank Offering," 2s.; "Tonbridge Wells," 2s.; H. N. S., 5s.; E. and A., 1s.; "Annie," 1s.; H. P., 1s.; "Exonian," 1s.; "Unionist," 6d.; "Microbe," 2s. 6d.; W. W., 2s. 6d.; F. H. M. W., 2s. 6d.; W. J. D., 1s.; "R. Seufert," 4s.; "Skylark," 1s; J. J. J., 2s. 6d.; "On the Square," 2s. 6d. A. W. H., 2s. 6d.; L. W., 1s.; A. H., 1s.; "Sympathiser," 2s.; "Honest Freemason," 5s.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

See page iii. of Cover.

"GHASTLY HOSPITAL HORROR."

A CLASS DEMONSTRATION.

We have had many communications from readers upon the article on this subject which appeared in our last issue, and with one exception they agree with us as to the action of the Hospital Authorities. This exception is a Doctor, and it is only fair that we should publish his view upon the matter. Our correspondent says, "Primarily the parents of the child were to blame in not having the body removed earlier." It will be remembered that the undertaker was directed by the parents to remove the body on Monday evening, but owing to other engagements he did not do so until the Tuesday evening. No doubt this delay is to be regretted, but the parents were in no way to blame, and we have still to learn that the delay in removal warranted what afterwards occurred.

We said that, since the cause of death was known, there was no occasion to hold a post-mortem examination. Our correspondent replies that in his opinion "people who have contributed nothing to the upkeep of the patient ought not to object to an examination." The sufficient answer to that is that when a post-mortem is held the custom requires the consent of the parents or guardians, and in this case that consent was not obtained.

Since the article appeared the grandfather of the child has seen us, and says that it was not an ordinary post-mortem. It was a post-mortem for the purpose of class demonstration, and we understand there is this difference between the one and the other—when the post-mortem is held simply to ascertain the cause of death, the mutilation of the body is, generally, much less than where a post-mortem is made for the purpose of class demonstration. In the one case mutilation may be comparatively slight; in the other the body may be cut and hacked about for the purpose of instructing students, and afterwards the remains are dealt with in a very summary way. It follows, as our readers will easily understand, that the treatment of bodies used for class demonstration—especially in hospitals like that at Great Ormond Street, where humanity seems to take a back seat—is generally much rougher than where the bodies are to be returned to their relatives and friends. Supporting this explanation we print the following letter from a M.R.C.S., Eng. :—

> The article in JOHN BULL last week with regard to the case at the Great Ormond Street Hospital is an interesting one to the medical man. Taking into consideration the facts which you publish—it would seem to the "outside professional eye" as if the body of the child were used for the purpose of a class demonstration—that is to say, a post-mortem, or in many cases, *more* than an ordinary post-mortem, examination, carried out by a teacher or demonstrator before a class for educational purposes. Such operations, however, are, as a rule, done on the bodies either of unclaimed persons or, in many cases, on the bodies of persons or children who belong to a family inhabiting only one, or, possibly, two rooms, and who are therefore not in a position to accommodate a corpse—either coffined or otherwise. Noticing, as I do, that the stitches in this case were 11 inches long, that the abdominal cavity was hard and apparently stuffed with tow or cotton wool, and that the upper part of the skull had been removed, I regard this as one of the cases which I mention as being used for a class demonstration, and whose bodies are, I regret to say, fairly often treated in a hasty and slovenly manner afterwards, with the idea that, having once been put in the coffin, they will not be further examined. I cannot see that there can be any other possible explanation of the treatment of this child's body, and it seems to me that very much more stringent regulations should be made, and carried out, in this particular hospital with regard to the treatment of the corpses of children dying therein. It is most unfortunate—to say the least of it—that this unhappy mother should have been subjected to such a shock as the condition of her baby's body would naturally give her.

We need hardly say that if it be true, as it appears to be, that the body of the baby Bailey was used in the way indicated by our correspondent, and confirmed by the child's grandfather, the outrage upon the parents was even greater than we had imagined it to be.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

See page iii. of Cover.

HASTINGS MAGISTRATES' AMAZING PROCEDURE.

THREE MONTHS' FIRST, INQUIRIES AFTER.

Again we have to call public attention to the vagaries of the Hastings magistrates. In the instance with which we have now to deal, a man named John Brown was charged before them with an indecent assault on a child, five years of age. When a policeman went to arrest Brown at his residence he "rushed upstairs and locked himself in the lavatory." He is so deaf that while he was in court the gaoler had to repeat the evidence through a speaking trumpet. The Chief Constable stated that in his opinion the man was weak-minded. Another witness testified that he had been in a lunatic asylum, and that he was often strange in his manner.

AN EXTRAORDINARY DECISION.

Now in the face of all this, the obvious duty of these magistrates, who are professedly on the bench to administer justice, was to remand the man for medical examination in order to ascertain his mental condition. What, in fact, they did was to sentence him to three months' imprisonment, adding that "arrangements would be made for him to be examined with regard to the state of his mind when he got to prison." It is difficult to find words of restraint for so iniquitous and illogical a procedure, for first the magistrates sentence him to three months' imprisonment as a criminal responsible for his actions, and then they make an arrangement to ascertain whether the state of his mind is such as to justify them sending him to gaol. "It is a cruel, wicked sentence," exclaimed the prisoner's foster-mother in court; "you might as well put a baby in prison as him." We incline to think she is right. With responsible brutes who commit these flagrant outrages on innocence we have not the smallest sympathy; they merit, and they should receive, punishment suited to their offence. But nothing can justify magistrates punishing a man mentally afflicted as they would punish one of sound mind. If they are in any doubt about his responsibility, or the extent of it, every attribute of plain common-sense, leaving justice out of the question, demands that they should order a medical examination before they convict him, because the result may be that the case is not one for a gaol but one for a sanatorium, not one for the gaoler, but one for the doctor. Until they know the state of his mind, they cannot fix the responsibility of his act. It is almost an insult to the intelligence of our readers to have to labour these elementary principles for the benefit of justices of the peace like those of the Hastings bench. Magistrates ought to learn their lessons of equity and justice and humanity before they aspire to judge and punish their fellow-men from seats of authority in the courts of law.

WHAT SAYS THE HOME SECRETARY?

The evidence before the Hastings magistrates established a *prima facie* case for the medical examination of this man Brown before he was sentenced. But the magistrates have now done their worst, and by paradox we suppose it is also their best. The onus is now upon the prison doctor and the Home Secretary; and if in the light of the evidence and the man's record they think it is probable that at the time he committed this offence he was in a condition of mental irresponsibility, then the conviction should be quashed, and the man released and treated in another place. Even if his irresponsibility cannot be established in the legal sense, that does not free the Hastings magistrates from the gravest censure. Their procedure is indefensible in any event. It is comparable with that of a judge who hangs a man and then orders an inquiry into the state of his mind.

LAW, CAR AND GENERAL INSURANCE.

We have received a communication from a late member of the staff of this company, complaining of much delay in payment of salaries. Our correspondent says that the manager appointed (Mr. Spencer) has sent circular letters to the various branch managers informing them that they will be paid in a few days, but does not keep his promise. It may be that some delay is unavoidable, but our correspondent goes on to say that, notwithstanding the fact that the secretary has not been on the premises, or in his office, for the past three months, he has received his salary. Why the differentiation, if such there be?

Recent Remarkable EXPERIMENTS

carried out independently in one of the principal physiological laboratories

have proved

1 That the Food Value of Bovril itself is exceptional.

2 That Bovril also has the peculiar power of enabling the system to extract greater nutriment from ordinary foods.

3 That these two properties together give Bovril a real body-building power of from

10 to 20 times the amount taken.

That Bovril has some very special properties has been long known to the Medical profession, but it is only these independent experiments which have recently been concluded that have shewn definitely the nature and extent of these powers.

Failure to properly assimilate food is a source of great danger, and is perhaps one of the most marked evils incident to the strenuous life of Cities. Modern science, however, has now shewn a way to obviate this, and all those who from ill-health or sedentary occupations are in the unenviable position of not being able to derive full benefit from their ordinary foods will find of inestimable value this conclusive proof of the powers of Bovril, and should take practical advantage of the immense benefits to be obtained by adding Bovril to the menu.

BOVRIL

Full particulars of the above-mentioned experiments will be sent to any medical man on application to Bovril, Limited, Old St., London, E.C. B.H.L.

MANCHESTER EX-OFFICIAL'S DESPAIR AND ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

A FAMILY WASH-TUB.

A few days ago a Manchester correspondent—who is in the employ of the Corporation—asked us to take note of a case of attempted suicide by an ex-official. He said: "You have the power to help Manchester greatly if you make the citizens acquainted with merely a few of the ignoble and wicked things done in their name."

We have caused inquiries to be made, and find the circumstances to be very much as our correspondent alleged.

In the *Manchester Evening Chronicle* of January 20th appeared the following;—

A Man's Despair.—Employment for a Would-be Suicide.

At Manchester City Police Court this morning James A. Halliwell, formerly a bath attendant, of 18, Molyneux Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock, appeared to answer a charge of attempted suicide in Rochdale Canal.

William Henry Hamilton, a lock-keeper, stated that when he rescued Halliwell he said: "Oh, my poor wife and children." Then he collapsed. In his pocket was found a note addressed to his wife in these terms: "I hope you will forgive me for what I have done, but you know I have been worried a lot lately, but I hope we will meet in the next world, where there will be no sorrow."

Asked if he had anything to say, Halliwell, a middle-aged man, said: "For months I have not had a moment's sleep, and I have been out of work, as is well known. On the morning in question that caused me to be utterly distracted."

In the circumstances Halliwell was discharged.

Mr. Derbyshire, the baths superintendent, who attended the proceedings, stated that Halliwell had been in the service of the Corporation. He was sorry to find him in the position he was, and he was there to say that he had the instruction of his chairman and deputy chairman to find temporary, and if possible, permanent employment for him. He promised both the Bench and Mr. Halliwell that whatever they could do would be done for him.

Now let us turn back to the meeting of the Manchester City Council on July 6th last, concerning which the *Manchester Guardian* reported:—

On the proceedings of the Baths Committee being submitted for approval Mr. Holden (chairman) asked that Mr. Caminada's motion, of which notice had been given, should be taken at once. The Council agreed to this.

Mr. Caminada thereupon moved: "That in the opinion of this Council the administration of the baths and washhouses is such that it should be the subject of an inquiry to be conducted by a special committee." He went on to accuse the Committee of much slackness in their work, and called for an independent inquiry.

The motion was defeated by a large majority, and the proceedings of the Committee were confirmed.

Halliwell was employed as an attendant at the Osborne Street Baths—of which Mr. and Mrs. Beattie, the son-in-law and daughter of Mr. Derbyshire, the chief superintendent, were the manager and manageress. Beattie, said Mr. Caminada, was in the habit of borrowing money from ratepayers and business men in the neighbourhood who attended the baths, and as they were not repaid with the promised expedition, some of them began to make inquiries of the subordinate officials. Confidence begat confidence, and then it was told that the wages of the attendants were not always paid at the regulation time, and were sometimes paid in "dribs and drabs." Halliwell screwed his courage to the sticking place, and, braver than the passive complainers, went and saw Mr. Derbyshire, Beattie's father-in-law. The matter was, however, hushed up, and not a single word was communicated to the Baths Committee. Halliwell did not dare to go beyond his chief, and there is little doubt that he was the subject of such persecution that he resigned his situation, that course being preferable to dismissal. Before doing so, however, he sought out Councillor Porter, barrister-at-law, and confided to him what he had told Mr. Derbyshire. Mr. Porter very properly asked him to reduce the facts to writing, which he did; and at a special meeting of the Chairman, Deputy-Chairman and Mr. Porter, Beattie was suspended, and, eventually—at a full committee meeting—was dismissed. His services were, however, retained, while the efforts of Mr. Porter and Mr. Caminada to secure the re-instatement of, or other work for, Halliwell failed.

During the time that Mr. Derbyshire knew of his son-in-law's conduct, Beattie's name was first in the list for the managership of a new and superior bath in another district.

Mr. Caminada asserted in the City Council that Mr. Derbyshire never was brought to book by the Baths Committee. It was in July Mr. Caminada placed the matter before the Council. On September 10th, they raised Mr. Derbyshire's salary from £325 to £350.

Halliwell, it is very well known, has been for a good while walking about, vainly seeking for employment. The sense of injustice at being punished for doing his duty no doubt drove him, in his despair, to attempt to take his life.

Incidentally, we may say that, according to the *Manchester Courier*, one member of the City Council, in supporting the proposal for an inquiry, asked "how they could expect a satisfactory state of things when they realised that the superintendent of the department had 11 relatives in the employ of the Corporation and nine of these in the service of the Baths Committee. He concluded by urging that, whenever a man made serious allegations against a department or against persons in responsible offices, he should be given an opportunity of proving them."

Another point which, our correspondent maintains, has prejudiced Halliwell is that he is well known in the ablest debating circles of Manchester, and has spent much time in trying to get the citizens interested in doings that are scandalous and the knowledge of which is prevented from coming into public view by the "rings" which unblushingly and tyrannically "administer" its affairs.

"RISKY ROLLER SKATING."

OUR STATEMENTS NOT DENIED.

Up to the time of going to press, the proprietors of the Palmer's Green Rink have not replied to our article under the above heading. There has, however, appeared in a local paper an "interview" with the manager, written either by a "new humorist" or someone who had not read the original article—the alleged reproduction of it being almost unintelligible.

The manager, apparently, boldly ignored our principal statement—namely, that at his establishment skaters are allowed to endanger the safety of others by careering *backwards* at high speed—and stated that "besides the inevitable sprain" only two accidents have occurred, both to ladies upon the rink for the first time. This is really too ingenious—as the excepted sprain (so lightly spoken of, though frequently exceedingly painful and necessitating long rest) is, of course, the injury most likely to be sustained by an innocent skater, hurled to the ground by being run into from behind by someone who cannot see where he is going. We wonder whether the lady who was knocked down in this way at 8.16 on the evening of Saturday, January 21st (the last occasion upon which our representative—who had seen several prior accidents of the same kind—visited the rink) considers that her fall was "inevitable" and looks upon the matter with the philosophy so admirably shown by the manager—who, by the way, runs no risk, as he does not skate.

As to the rink not paying, again there is no denial, as the manager merely remarked: "It is not a company; how can they know? They have not access to my books." That it is not a financial success is patent to any *habitué*, as, except on Saturdays, it is rare to see more than a handful of people on it, while the staff has been cut down to about half the number with which it started in October last, the discharged men stating that their services have been dispensed with owing to the place being run at a loss.

CAN THIS BE?

We notice in a report of a meeting of the Camberwell Guardians, held on January 25th, the following statement:—

Mr. Row declared that when he was in the Sick Ward of the Infirmary on Thursday night inmates were singing songs whilst others were dying. People were going into eternity to the tune of music-hall songs.

We understand Mr. Row to be a member of the Board of Guardians.

CHAIRMAN.

When smoking have the best. The stinting of the necessary penny is the wisdom of the unwise.

For the enjoyment of the pipe is the pleasure of hours. If the tobacco is less than the best, the enjoyment is impaired. But with the tobacco perfect the satisfaction is complete.

Yet the difference in the cost of the perfect tobacco and the others is trifling—a few pence each week—an unappreciable amount with each pipe.

And the best is CHAIRMAN—the greatest of all tobaccos—6d. per oz. everywhere.

BOARDMAN'S is the same tobacco milder, and

RECORDER the same but fuller flavoured.

R. J. LEA, Limited, MANCHESTER.

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AKBAR INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

There seems to be considerable disturbance at this school, which we shall probably get to the bottom of before our next issue. Meantime, we gather from the *Birkenhead News* that:—

> It has been stated that a boy who was to be caned, broke a window and attempted to cut his throat with a piece of the glass.

According to our contemporary, an emphatic denial has been given to this rumour. It is then stated:—

> A boy did escape on Tuesday, but not the same one who broke the window . . . he went off and tramped as far as Connah's Quay, where he was arrested and sent back.

The *Birkenhead News* quotes from another contemporary the following:—

> The long delay of the Home Office in issuing their report of the inquiry into the allegations of cruelty at the Akbar School, Heswall, is giving rise to a good deal of impatience and inconvenience. The general election and the illness of Mr. Masterman, who conducted the inquiry, have no doubt contributed to the loss of time in the matter; but, after all due allowance, it is quite time now that the suspense should be brought to an end. It is a little significant that it has not been found necessary at the Home Office to suspend any of the officers of the institution pending the final decision of the Department.

Hear, hear!

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

"JOHN BULL'S" GREETINGS.

February 5th.—Sir Hiram Maxim.

By increasing the horrors of war, maybe,
You have carried us nearer to peace;
So feel no remorse
That so fearful a force
As your gun has caused thousands' decease.
I really don't see why the world should complain;
If they hadn't died thus, they'd have died all the same;
Therefore, on your birthday be merry and bright—
But please drop the problem of aerial flight.

February 7th.—Hon. Alfred Lyttelton.

When those Chinamans, childlike and bland,
You slentee to Aflica's land,
You never once thought
That an act of that sort
Would stickee to you like a bland.

But I'm solly to say it is so,
Though you dontee deserve it, you know;
Still, be melly and blight,
For its now allee light,
Since they've all been sent back to Ning Po!

February 10th.—Admiral Lord Charles Beresford.

I'm Admiral Charlie of Portsmouth Town,
And an Admiral bold I be;
A matter of sixty years have flown
Since first I put to sea.
In the Commons I sit, and when I'm fit;
At speaking I'm a nailer—
When I rise in my place there's a reg'lar race
To hear old Charlie the Sailor, the sailor, the sail . . or!!

For I am an Admiral bold,
And I say just what occurs to me;
If the House don't like it—well,
They can d—n well go to h—l,
With fools I never trouble to agree.
Then give three hearty cheers,
For the sailor who speaks free,
With a hi-ho-holly,
And a cheer for pretty Polly;
The King, and his ships at sea!!!

TRADE NOTE.

A leather substitute which is being employed in some of the well-known hotels is called "Rexine." It costs but one-fourth the price of leather, from which none but an expert could detect the difference. It is washable, does not become scratched, and by reason of its utility and economy it is now also being used extensively in private houses. It is manufactured by the British Leather Cloth Manufacturing Company, Limited, Hyde, nr. Manchester, but may be obtained from the leading furnishers, stores and upholsterers.

POTTED POLITICAL PANTOS.

By "Retlaw."

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT; OR, WORK *versus* SHIRK.

Scene: *The Country.*

Opening Chorus of Party Politicians (*with tongue in cheek*).

Our Country calls us! We must go,
There is so much to do, you know;
Bills without number to debate
Each strenuous night till very late.
With speeches eloquent and long
We'll push the Parliament along;
Reckless of health, our strength we'll spend
The Country's welfare still our end.
A noble privilege ours is,
To carry on the Country's biz.;
The people should their thanks accord us;
Or more substantially reward us.

(*All dance.*)

A Party Politician (*solo*):

I once was a man of low degree,
But made some cash in draperee;
I sweated my assistants well
And made my Bargain Sales a "sell"—
That's how I got my money.
My wife, on social shining bent,
Said, "John, get into Parliament."
So to the Party funds I gave
A cheque or two the way to pave;
And the result was funny!

The Party leaders smiled so sweet;
And quickly found me "a safe seat,"
Then said, "All you will have to do
Is *what the Whip will tell you to*,
And never think or worry."
I promised, and to-day you see
A docile Party hack in me,
Who, when I catch the Whip's keen eye
Just ask, "Which am I—No, or Aye?"
Then through the lobby hurry.

Chorus of Party Politicians.

That's the way our job is done!
Lots of leisure, lots of fun,
Then a scramble and a run
To the Division Lobby.
Why we vote, we never know;
How to vote, the Whip will show
Politics, though rather slow,
We find a pleasant hobby.

Party Politician (*solo*):

If the people only knew,
Chaps, I wonder what they'd do?
Hypocrites we mostly are,
All touched with the same old tar.
In the Commons' House we find,
Pleasures for the vacant mind.
Chess and draughts, and tea and bun;
And all other kinds of fun.
Smoking-rooms with easy chairs,
Where we sleep away our cares;
And in summer-time we see,
Charming damsels taking tea,
On the Terrace by the river,
Which, like us, goes on for ever.

Chorus:

Thus we watch the country's welfare day by day;
Sometimes voting, but more frequently at play;
Who cries "Business!" may go hang
(Please excuse the use of slang).
Party Politics is still "the only way."

[Curtain.]

SPIERS AND POND AGAIN!

For a striking article under this heading, showing how Spiers and Pond conduct the Bread Department of their business, see this week's MRS. BULL.

When you see it in JOHN BULL, it IS so

The recommendations of Medical authorities, when genuineness is assured, are far too valuable to be overlooked. During 25 years doctors and nurses have testified to the marvellous restorative effects of Hall's Wine. Although Medical etiquette forbids the publication of professional names in testimonials, readers may place absolute confidence in these letters. JOHN BULL has inspected and certified the genuineness of these unsolicited medical testimonials.

No. 851.
"I have seen some of the best results from the use of Hall's Wine, in cases of Nervous Breakdown, brought on by worry and mental strain of any description. I consider Hall's Wine is one of the best pick-me-ups known."

No. 785.
"I have prescribed Hall's Wine for some years with marked success during Convalescence."

No. 813.
"I cannot speak too highly of Hall's Wine as a Nerve Tonic. I take it myself regularly."

No. 831.
"After a severe attack of pleurisy and sleeplessness, I found Hall's Wine gave me almost immediate relief from the insomnia. Its restorative properties are so marked that I am making a most speedy recovery, for which thanks to Hall's Wine."

No. 868.
"I can personally testify to the efficacy of Hall's Wine. I am at present nursing a heavy case (paralysis), which is very exhausting to me. I find Hall's Wine a magnificent pick-me-up. I generally take it at 11 o'clock, with a biscuit. It quite restores me."

No. 867.
"Continuous night duty and heavy work leaves me very run down, but after a few glasses of Hall's Wine I rapidly pick up. I consider that if the Wine is taken according to directions on the bottle, there is nothing to equal it."

No. 799.
"I have personally tested Hall's Wine and find it an excellent tonic and pick-me-up, and I never hesitate to recommend it in suitable cases in my practice."

No. 787.
"I have always found Hall's Wine most useful ,especially during convalescence."

No. 821.
"I appreciate Hall's Wine very much indeed, and its marvellous restorative properties. I have a patient over seventy years of age, who started taking Hall's Wine. After the first bottle she said she felt like doing a good day's work. No doubt it is a Marvellous Restorative."

No. 822.
"I consider Hall's Wine is exceedingly strengthening after any illness, especially when taken as prescribed. Its restorative qualities are simply marvellous."

No. 827.
"After an operation for Appendicitis, the Surgeon recommended me to take Hall's Wine, and after two bottles my strength and energy came back to me. I can safely recommend it to patients recovering from severe illness or after operations."

No. 828.
"I have found Hall's Wine splendid in Acute Neuralgia. The people I am at present with think a great deal of it as well. They always keep it in the house."

No. 765.
"I am constantly prescribing Hall's Wine, and find it most beneficial in convalescence after serious illness."

No. 820.
"I had been up for practically a fortnight with a patient, and had assisted at a very serious operation the day before. I had felt almost in despair from over-work and nerve strain. As I had to attend an operation the following morning, I thought, having seen the effect of Hall's Wine in some of my own cases, I would try it. I took one glass, lying down immediately afterwards. In half an hour I felt a new creature. The feeling of extreme exhaustion had left me, also the pain in my back, and I was able to go on with my duties. In cases where there is difficulty in sleeping Hall's Wine is invaluable, and I cannot speak too highly of it."

No. 757.
"As a stimulating and rapid restorative, as well as a good pick-me-up, Hall's Wine is of exceptional value."

No. 892.
"I had a practical experience of the value of Hall's Wine in my own case. A fortnight ago I had a most serious cold. I took a dose of Hall's Wine as prescribed, in hot water, on going to bed. The next morning I was much better, though weak. I took the remainder of the bottle during the next few days, and I am now quite right again. I shall always resort to it in a similar case."

No. 826.
"After being completely run down, through overwork, I took three bottles of Hall's Wine, and the effect on me was simply marvellous. I have been 'knocked out' through overwork before, but have never had such a complete and rapid recovery."

No. 752.
"I have ordered Hall's Wine for several patients during Convalescence from various fevers and in general debility. I am taking a course of it myself as a restorative."

No. 811.
"I have been suffering from Sleeplessness and took Hall's Wine with most satisfactory results. I am now prescribing it both for Sleeplessness, and as a pick-me-up."

No. 960.
"Suffering from a very bad break-down, through overwork, I have taken Hall's Wine, and am pleased to be able to say it has done me the greatest good. There is no doubt as to its marvellous Restorative properties."

No. 957.
"I was suffering from an attack of Neuralgia in the face and neck, and am pleased to say that Hall's Wine has given me immense relief."

No. 766.
"I frequently recommend Hall's Wine to patients, with most satisfactory results, and consider it a convenient and very agreeable stimulant and restorative."

No. 836.
"I was suffering from a relaxed throat and neuralgia and took Hall's Wine with most excellent results. I have since recommended it to a number of friends, who have had the same experience as mine."

No. 778.
"I have prescribed Hall's Wine for many years past with very good results."

From these certified testimonials, readers can form their opinions of the many virtues of Hall's Wine. Yet these are but few of the many thousand appreciative letters received. In the light of such evidence none can doubt that Hall's Wine is the quickest and best of all restorative tonics; that it banishes neuralgia, insomnia, and nerve troubles; builds up wasted tissues; assists nature to resist colds, chills, influenza, and "winter-weather" complaints; and is invaluable in convalescence.

WHIPS FOR ALL PARTIES.

By Richard Morton.

The usual whips have been sent to Members of Parliament, as a reminder of the Session about to open. In reproducing these documents, we are able to assert that our versions are entirely unofficial and unauthorised:—

The Liberal Whip.

"Dear Sir,—Just a few lines to let you know that your presence will be highly esteemed on the Opening of Parliament, as from all accounts your vote will be wanted early and often. You need not trouble about anything else; just turn up and wait about the premises, ready to vote as and when required. One of the Whips will always be on hand to direct you which lobby to go into.

"Matters of importance are to be decided by the House, but, as these have already been decided by the Government, there is no need to worry you with particulars. Any facts you may be inquisitive about you will be able to gather from the newspaper reports on the morning after you have voted.

"Hoping you are well, as this leaves me at present, Yours, etc."

The Unionist Whip.

"Dear Sir,—If you have nothing else on, don't fail to turn up for the Opening. Grave issues are at stake, so they say, and there are not too many of us. So, if you can spare the time, be on the spot. (N.B.—Morning Dress.)

"While on the subject, I may as well remind you, in case it has slipped your memory, that Mr. Balfour is still our Leader. You will, therefore, be prepared to support, as cordially as you can, whatever he may say or do. I regret I cannot at present give you any idea of what this may be, but our respected Leader will disclose his policy in due course. You must, therefore, be ready for anything, and take what turns up as gospel. In this way you will be acting in accord with the true principles of Party Government.

"Hoping to find you content with things as they are, and trusting to find you in your usual place, or the smoking room, Yours, etc."

The Home Rule Whip.

"Dear Bhoy,—Be up good and early. We are out for the boodle. The Saxons have got to toe the line. Promises don't cut no ice (excuse the American accent), and it's time we got something. So we're going to get it.

"Pop into your place quick and snug, and we'll soon have our enemies squirming on the carpet. There's a good toime coming, so take a front seat. Yours, etc."

The Labour Whip.

"Dear Comrade,—In detecting the savour of the scent of battle it behoves me to indicate the necessity for an early attendance at the Opening of a Session which means so much for us, for, if we are to get anything, it seems imperative that we should get it now. Taking a hint from the advertisements of the hated capitalists, let us Ask for what we Want and See that we Get it.

"Have a nice long speech ready, and be in good time for the First House. There are no early doors.

"Yours till death, or the next Election."

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

FROM HEAVEN TO EARTH AGAIN.

(*Miss Marie Shelton and Mr. Walter Stowe, of San Antonio, Texas, were married in a balloon floating eight hundred feet above the city. The wedding was actually in the clouds.*)

All marriages are made in heav'n,
But, wed in a balloon,
A happy couple in the clouds
Come back to earth too soon!

A MATTER OF FIGURES.

(*Women are just now struggling to attain the new figure, for every year the fashionable figure differs from that of the previous year; never is it the same for two successive seasons.*)

Whatever may be fashion's new decree,
Woman will still find words of praise to say for it;
She settles what her figure is to be—
And man must find the figure that will pay for it.

Ricardo.

JOHN BULL'S MONTHLY CALENDAR.

FEBRUARY.

1st W, Members of Parliament busy swearing in. Unsuccessful candidates at the last election swearing out.—Rain.

2nd Th. John Bull published. Scottish Quarter Day. Scotch M.P.'s domiciled in the Land o' Cakes hold an urgent Committee of Ways and Means.—Fine, turning to Scotch mist.

3rd F. *St. Blaize*, so-called because about this date certain M.P.'s will begin politely to tell one another to go to *Blazes*.—Warm.

4th S. Sir William Palliser, famous artillerist, died 1882. Pélissier, famous humorist, potted a play, 1909.—Humid.

5th. S. *St. Agatha*. Suffragettes begin to develop their attack. Sir Hiram Maxim born, 1840. Foreign missionaries decide not to send birthday congratulations because he max'em wild.—Stormy.

6th M. Sir Henry Irving born, 1838. Sir Beerbohm Tree doing well, 1911.—Rain.

7th Tu. *Mrs. Bull* published. Mrs. Grundy has a nervous attack. Rt. Hon. Alfred Lyttelton born. Trouble in China.—Fine.

8th W. Half-Quarter Day. House property owners complain of the slow passage of time.—Rain.

9th Th. John Bull published. Day of lamentation for cranks and hypocrites.—Fine.

10th F. Lord Charles Beresford born, 1846. Wild orgies in Portsmouth. Charles Lamb born, 1775. Consignment of Canterbury lamb arrives—and no kid.—Chilly.

11th S. Edison born, 1847. Twentieth annual announcement is made of the invention of a cheap electric storage battery.—Wind.

12th S. *Septuagesima Sunday*. Rev. Silvester Horne, M.A., M.P., tries his new House of Commons' speech on a congregation of hardened Nonconformists at Whitefield's.—Dry.

13th M. Trial of Warren Hastings commenced, 1788. (We are informed this *cause célèbre* is now finished.)—Uncertain.

14th Tu. *St. Valentine's Day. Mrs. Bull* published. Mrs. Grundy has a nervous breakdown—for both reasons.—Very fine.

15th W. Sir Frederick Treves born, 1853. Vermiform appendices uneasy.—Oppressive.

16th Th. John Bull published. Ernst Haeckel born 1834, for the purpose of solving the Riddle of the Universe.—Very fine.

17th F. Molière died, 1673. George Bernard Shaw commemorates him in a speech.—Dry.

18th S. G. K. Chesterton explains G. B. Shaw's speech.—Change.

19th S. *Sexagesima Sunday*. Madame Patti born, 1843. "Home Sweet Home" may be sung in choirs and places where they sing.—Damp.

20th M. Disturbance in Parliament. Mr. Balfour proposes a referendum on the Referendum.—Bright, but not very merry.

21st Tu. *Mrs. Bull* published. Mrs. Grundy has a fit.—Brilliant.

22nd W. George Washington born, 1732. Well-known M.P. suspended for saying that, like Washington, he cannot tell a lie. (Termino. inexacts. don't count.)—Boisterous.

23rd Th. John Bull published.—Extremely fine.

24th F. *St. Matthias*.. (Quite enough for one day!)

25th S. Sir Christopher Wren died, 1723. *Daily Mail* discovers for the fourth time that St. Paul's Cathedral is unsafe.—Fog.

26th S. *Shrove Sunday*. Great rush of Ulster Nationalists to be shriven before taking part in the Battle of Belfast.—Unsettled.

27th M. Majuba fought, 1881.—Gloomy.

28th Tu. *Mrs. Bull* published. PANCAKE DAY! Sudden epidemic of mysterious gastric disorder throughout Britain.—Heavy.

"MRS. BULL."
PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY. PRICE ONE PENNY.

WHAT IS A CLERK?

An article of far-reaching importance to all who are engaged in business. Useful alike to the Clerk, the Salesmen, the Traveller, the Manager, or the Proprietor of any Business, large or small.

If any man who reads this question should himself chance to be a clerk he would undoubtedly be indignant if we were to give as our definition of a clerk—"The man who failed." Yet such is the case if we examine facts with an impartial mind. Men who succeed make definite positions for themselves. They become managers, salesmen, travellers, experts of some kind or another. But the clerk remains just the clerk, because he has no qualification which enables him to do anything more than office work of a more or less mechanical order.

"Yes," we shall be told, "but there are many men who, although they are simply clerks, possess sufficient ability and sufficient brains to make them capable of commanding success in other directions."

Exactly so. There are many clerks who could be successful in other directions, but the fact remains that they are not. Why? Why do they remain in the ranks of

The Clerkly Failure?—

for the very over-crowding of the ranks of clerks and the average poorness of the pay proves that they are the mass of mediocrity and failure from which the clever and capable few have been sifted out.

It is not that the clerk has no ability, but it is that he has never learned to apply that ability. Anyone who takes the trouble to inquire into the source of success will at once receive a very convincing demonstration of the fact that to-day *it is knowledge that wins*. In other days influence and the simple virtues of punctuality, steadiness and sobriety were sufficient to ensure a man regular and mechanical advance in his business, but now this is no longer the case. The only men who move up are the men who increase their knowledge.

There is no college, or institution, at which commercial knowledge or information of that sort that a man needs in order to better himself in business can be acquired, but recently there has been published a book which is of the utmost value and importance to any and every man engaged in any kind of business, trade or profession.

The book we refer to is

"The Business Encyclopaedia,"

which is not an encyclopædia in the ordinary sense of the word, but an encyclopædia of a specialist kind. It is the first Encyclopædia of Business ever issued, and its immediate success, and great popularity, prove unquestionably that it is an encyclopædia which has been wanted for a very long time. It gives exhaustive expert information on every point of business detail; on professional and legal matters; on financial matters, and on all matters relating to the conduct and progress of business.

It is an easy matter for any man to say to himself, "Oh, no book can tell me more about my business than I know already." This is a big mistake, and a costly one. The business you are engaged in is not the only one of its kind, and the "Business Encyclopædia" has been written by experts, who have had life-long experience in every trade and profession. So that when you refer to the "Business Encyclopædia" you are referring to and making use of the experience of an expert.

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To Get a Better Position.

The office manager finds it valuable because it helps him to organise his staff and his work. It is valuable to the managing director, or the secretary, or the accountant, or the correspondent for similar reasons. If all these men find it valuable to them, what justification is there for your thought that it will not be equally valuable to you? The greatest mistake that any man can make is to think that he can dispense with aids which more successful men have found indispensable. The reason they succeed is because they do not disdain expert help. In the "Business Encyclopædia" you can have the help always ready at your elbow, ready to refer to whenever need arises.

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.....

CONFERENCE OF THE IMMORTALS.

Reported by W. M.

We have received by wireless a verbatim report of the third annual Conference of the Immortals, held, as is customary, on Mount Parnassus. Mr. William Shakespeare was voted to the chair with acclamation.

There was a crowded attendance, many Immortals being unable to secure seats. Just as the proceedings were about to commence, some excitement was caused by the discovery of Julia, of Mr. W. T. Stead's Bureau, who had secreted herself underneath the Chairman's table. She was incontinently ejected, the only authorised medium for a report of the Conference being the pages of John Bull. (Loud cheers.)

The first item on the Agenda being

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

the Chairman, Mr. Shakespeare, rose and said:

If you look for a good speech now you undo me. (*"No!"*)

Henry Fielding: Let other hours be set apart for business,
To-day it is our pleasure to be drunk.
(*Cheers and cries of dissent.*)

Charles Mackay: Cheer, boys, cheer! (*Wild and hilarious cheers.*)

John Fletcher: Let's warm our brains with half-a-dozen healths,
And then, hang cold discourse; for we'll speak firewo'ks. (*Cheers.*)

John Milton: Then to the spicy, nut-brown ale.

The Chairman (*aside*): I had rather than forty shillings I had my book of songs and sonnets here.

William Harvard: Our country's welfare is our first concern.

The Chairman: Unmuzzle your wisdom.

Emerson: Of the two great parties which, at this hour, almost share the nation between them, I should say that one has the best cause, and the other contains the best men. (*Cries of "Which?"*)

John Fletcher: Concord can never join minds so divided.

Gladstone: Decision by majorities is as much an expedient as lighting by gas.

Lowell: I tell ye wut, my jedgment is they're pooty sure to fail
Ez lon' 'z the head keeps turnin' back for counsel to the tail. (*Laughter.*)

Massinger: They'll do little
That shall offend you, for their chief desire
Is to do nothing at all.

John Dryden: The surly commons shall respect deny
And justle peerage out with property.

The Chairman: Now sits Expectation in the air. . . . . The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers. (*Loud cheers and laughter.*)

When the merriment had subsided the next item on the Agenda was put before the meeting, which immediately proceeded to discuss

HOME RULE.

Gerald Massey: One sharp, stern struggle, and the slaves of centuries are free. (*Cries of "No, no"!*)

The Chairman: Didst thou never hear
That things ill got had ever bad success?

Charles Lever, who spoke with a rich brogue, was understood to say that the Irish are

A charming pisintry upon a fruitful sod,
Fightin' like divils for conciliation,
An' hatin' each other for the love of God. (*"Hear, hear!"*)

Dr. Johnson: The Irish are a fair people; they never speak well of one another.

At this point a heated altercation took place between Charles Lever and the famous lexicographer, which was with difficulty suppressed by the Chairman. When order had been restored, the debate was continued by

John Milton: Vain hopes, vain aims, inordinate desires. (*Hear, hear!*)

Sydney Smith: *Erin go bragh!* A far better anthem would be Erin go bread and cheese. (*Laughter.*)

Herbert Spencer: Political changes should never be made save after overcoming great resistance.

Daniel Webster (*rising excitedly*): Liberty and Union, now and for ever, one and inseparable. (*Prolonged cheers.*)

The Chairman: Hold fast is the only dog. (*Cheers.*)

Great interest was manifested when the third item on the Agenda, the subject of Anarchists, was brought before the Conference. The first to rise was

Edmund Burke: An event has happened, upon which it is difficult to speak, and impossible to be silent.

Robert Browning: How sad, and mad, and bad it was. (*"Hear!"*)

Joseph Addison: They are all of them men of concealed fire, that doth not break out with noise and heat in the ordinary circumstances of life, but shows itself sufficiently in all great enterprises that require it. (*"Question!"*)

Wordsworth: Men who can hear the decalogue, and feel
No self-reproach.

Viscount Bolingbroke: Pests of Society! (*Loud cheers.*)

The Chairman: With forcheads villainous low. (*Renewed cheers.*)

Artemus Ward: The *Anarchist* may be Our Brother... But the *Anarchist* isn't our sister and our wife and our uncle. He isn't sevral of our brothers and all our first wife's relashuns. He isn't our grandfather and our grate grandfather, and our aunt in the country. (*Laughter.*)

Francis Bacon: The law of keeping out strangers is a law of pusillanimity and fear. (*Cries of dissent.*)

The Chairman: What, wouldst thou have a serpent sting thee twice? (*Applause.*)

John Bright: Force is not a remedy. (*Discordant cries.*)

Bret Harte: Thar ain't no sense in gittin' riled. (*Cheers.*)

John Fletcher: I love a dire revenge;
Give me the man that will all others kill,
And last himself. (*Great disorder.*)

William Cowper: My ear is pained,
My soul is sick with every day's report
Of wrongs and outrage with which earth is filled.

Joanna Baillie: Can spirit from the tomb or fiend from hell
More hateful, more malignant be than man? (*Loud cries of "Woman!"*)

Charles Dickens: I know their tricks and their manners. (*Laughter.*)

Edmund Burke: When bad men combine, the good must associate.

Robert Browning: No use in being squeamish. (*Cheers.*)

Samuel Pepys: God preserve us! for all these things bode very ill. (*Shouts of "Sit down, Pepys!"*)

John Dryden (*referring specifically to the Battle of Stepney*): Death never won a stake with greater toil.

Macaulay And how can man die better
Than facing fearful odds?

Robert Southey: It was a famous victory. (*Laughter.*)

The Chairman, who was heard to mutter "I would it were bedtime," next brought before the Conference the question of the Home Secretary's action at the Battle of Stepney. The mention of Mr. Churchill's name was the signal for a great outburst of cheers and counter cheers. The discussion was opened by

Sir Walter Scott: So much he longed to view the fight,
But with the morning cool repentance came. (*Laughter.*)

Joseph Addison: The best may err. (*Cheers.*)

Francis Bacon: Many are wise in their own ways, that are weak for government or counsel.

Isaac Bickerstaff: Young fellows will be young fellows. (*Cheers.*)

James Beattie: Some deemed him wondrous wise, and some believed him mad. (*Cheers and counter-cheers.*)

Marlowe: More childish valorous than manly wise. (*Commotion.*)

Andrew Marvell (*warmly*):
He nothing common did, or mean
Upon that memorable scene. (*Laughter.*)

John Milton: He above the rest
In shape and gesture proudly eminent
Stood like a tower. (*Loud derisive laughter.*)

The Chairman: Well said: that was laid on with a trowel. (*Loud laughter.*)

Tennyson was heard to remark that "*Someone* had blundered." (*Cries of "Shut up!"*).

John Ruskin: Pride is at the bottom of all great mistakes.

No one rising to continue the debate, the Conference was closed.

SEKHET

"Sekhet" was an Egyptian Goddess—of "Love and Cruelty." She is depicted as a woman with a Cat's Head, and a Statue of her may be seen in the British Museum.

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THE BATTLE BEGINS!

JOHN BULL.

JOHN BULL (To Tweedledum and Tweedledee): "Come, stop this fooling! Let's get to Business- Government!"

("Through the Looking-Glass"—revised.)

OPEN LETTERS. POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, Carlton Club, London.

DEAR MR. BALFOUR,—On another page I have addressed a few words of friendly counsel to Mr. Asquith; and I should like to whisper one or two things in your ear also.

Let me warn you against a very determi..., if not a very dangerous, conspiracy, to oust you from the leadership of the Party. With you are to go Sir Alexander Acland Hood and Lord Valentia—and a "new policy" is to be inaugurated. You have doubtless heard all this before—but you do not know as much about it as I do—strange as it may sound. Of course, nothing will come of it, for without you, where would the Party be—at any rate, so far as the House of Commons is concerned? Given the present system, you are as indispensable to your side as Asquith is to his; and as unreplaceable. But, my dear A. J. B., you *must* buck up. Never mind whether or not you are sure of your ground; once on it, stick to it. And don't hesitate in saying what a wicked Government we have. Everybody in the House understands, but there are the "strangers" in the Gallery, and you must make them think you mean it. After all, the Party game won't last much longer—and you must play it for all it is worth. Tell Asquith that he may have his puppet-peers; prophesy that half-of them will soon become sound Tories; threaten to dis-peer the other half when you come back to power; whilst, as to Home Rule, warn the Government that it means civil war. Remind Mr. Asquith that the spirit of the old Romans is alive in Ulster, and ask—

> How can man die better
> Than facing fearful odds;
> For the ashes of his fathers,
> And the temples of his gods?

This will bring your Party to their feet, and, later, in the lobby, they will all be saying "Wasn't Balfour in fine form!" Remember, "F. E." is always just behind you.

JOHN BULL.

To the Right Hon. Lord Loreburn, Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain.

DEAR CHANCELLOR,—It seems necessary to direct your lordship's attention to recent regrettable proceedings in connection with the Epiphany Quarter Sessions at Scarborough. If I am correctly informed in regard to them by an eye-witness, Mr. Charles Haigh (the Recorder) was unable to take his seat through illness, and his place was occupied by Mr. W. A. Meek, Recorder of York. The calendar was a light one, only five prisoners being up for trial; and from 10.30 in the morning until late in the evening the spectators appear to have been kept in a constant roar of laughter. I suppose they had come to hear the proceedings of a Court of Justice, and were agreeably surprised to find that the Recorder and the Clerk and the Bar were determined to entertain them with an exhibition of farcical comedy.

I trust, my lord, that I am not wanting in sympathy for physical infirmities; on the other hand, I cannot believe that the bench of justice is an appropriate place for their exposure. Here was presented the pathetic and yet ludicrous spectacle of a deaf and partially blind Recorder sitting as judge, while an octogenarian clerk of the peace dinned the evidence into his ears over and over again, and counsel and witnesses had to lean over his desk and shout their questions and speeches at him. As the shadows of evening fell on this ludicrous scene, the three pairs of eyeglasses with which the learned Recorder picked his visual way among the documents did not suffice for his needs; the addition of the electric lights was also insufficient to lighten his darkness; and finally a policeman was sent forth for a paraffin lamp. This is the last glance we are permitted to take of the picture, my lord; but indeed we have seen enough of it. That it should be possible has naturally aroused the indignation of the burgesses, who are undoubtedly within their rights in claiming that the processes of justice in their historic Court of Pleas should not again be ridiculed by so pitiful an exhibition. I trust your lordship will see fit to exercise your authority in this direction.

JOHN BULL.

To Dr. Digby Sandiland, Medical Superintendent, St. George's Workhouse, Fulham Road, London.

SIR,—Having given careful attention to the evidence in the case of Albert James Fox, charged at Westminster police-court with refusing to perform his allotted task as an inmate of St. George's Workhouse, I find myself driven to the conclusion that the performance of your duties as Medical Superintendent leaves much to be desired. If I am to assume your medical competence, I am left in doubt regarding the thoroughness of your superintendence; and if I am to assume the thoroughness of your superintendence, I am left in doubt regarding your medical competence. On the first occasion that the defendant appeared in court, sir, it was obvious that he was ill, and when he pleaded that he was physically incapable of doing the work of stone-breaking to which he had been put, "as he had long been suffering from consumption and chronic rheumatism," it was you who were placed on your defence and not he. If his plea were true—and you must, or ought to have known if it were true—it was evident you had been either callous and cruel in ordering him to stone-breaking, or had ordered him to it in amazing ignorance or amazing neglect of the ailment from which he suffered. This seems to have been in the mind of Mr. Horace Smith, the magistrate, for he remanded the case and directed an independent medical examination. Dr. Gideon Marsh was called in, and on the next hearing of the case he testified that the man was "certainly unfit for stone-breaking or for any work at all."

What was your answer to that, sir? You said that the man had never complained of his throat to you, though I should have supposed that the condition of a man's voice would create in any person of intelligent observation suspicion of laryngitis. As a matter of fact, the man had told an assistant doctor, the night before you certified h m for stone-breaking, that he was ill, thinking he would be placed in the infirmary "as he had been on seven previous occasions, on three of which he was attended by Mr. Sandiland himself." Not only so, but you "sounded" his back and chest. How in these circumstances you failed to discover, or failed to suspect, the man was ill, passes all understanding.

"I can easily give him another task," you told the magistrate, when your excuses and explanations were exhausted. "Another task?" exclaimed the magistrate. "I don't know about that. I shall discharge the man and order him to be taken to the infirmary." That was a humane and just decision, sir; for even if it were possible to hold you free from blame in failing to detect that he was unfit for stone-breaking, there was no excuse for dragging him into a police-court on such a charge without submitting him to medical examination.

In the light of the evidence and the comments of the magistrate, I cannot see how the Board of Guardians can escape the duty of passing official censure on your action.

JOHN BULL.

To Ramsay Macdonald, M.P.

DEAR RAMSAY,—At time of going to press, the rumour is that you are to be the new Chairman of the Labour Party. If t ue, that will be very nice—nice for you, and even n ce for the Government. You have already expressed your opinion that we couldn't have a better War Minister; th..t the Chancellors of the Exchequer, *since* 1906, have been ideal Financial ministers; and that my idea of a business Government is "unsavoury." So *that's* all right. Now it only remains for the Prime Minister to nobble edmond. But Redmond isn't R msay!

JOHN BULL.

His Majesty King George, Windsor Castle.

Heartily congratulate your Majesty on decision visit Dublin. Assured real Irish welcome, and great good all round. BULL.

Edward Baring, Honeymoon Hotel, Eastbourne.

Congratulate you on marriage with Marie Hall, greatest of women violinists. Reward well deserved, no doubt. You have always known how to business manager. Suppose at last she played on your feelings. BULL.

Stipendiary, Police Court, Hull.

Agree with you police should find better witnesses than ripe old ex-convict, as in Clarence public-house gaming case. Any rope good enough to hang a publican with has always been the rule. BULL.

Chillagoe Copper.—Cyclops.—The price of Chillagoe Coppers is now 6s. 6d. to 6s. 9d. A new sub-company has been formed with a capital of £60,000, the shares in which will shortly arrive in this country, and it is then expected that an important rise will occur. The company is doing remarkably well, and the Chillagoe and Etheridge Railways are earning handsome profits for the company. What you require has been forwarded.

Outside Brokers.—Ramsay.—Of course, the outside broker expects to get back in the price of the shares what he loses in commission. I should strongly advise you to deal through a member of the Stock Exchange. Victim.—Obviously, the 36, Victoria Street, S.W., gentleman who conducts "fortnightly options" in American Rails, is a doubtful outside broker, and I am not at all surprised that your communication asking for money was returned, marked "left—address unknown." This is what usually happens when these people find it is getting too hot. How could you allow yourself to be duped in this fashion? I have been warning my readers from week to week in these columns to give such gentry a wide berth. Hope.—The two outside brokers in question are certainly not "bucket-shops"—they are fairly respectable, although I do not like their system. I refer you to my article. You have not sent your address. Please forward it at once. G. P.—I do not like the system of Duncan Forbes and Company, outside brokers, of 49, London Wall, and should advise you to deal with a member of the London Stock Exchange. Warwick.—These are circularising outside brokers, who are not likely to let you make much money. You will do better to deal with a member of the Stock Exchange. Margin.—I see nothing wrong in the account, and the occurrence should be a lesson to you not to go into such obscure shares with outside dealers in the future. I think, however, you can repudiate the liability as coming under the Gaming Act. T. A. M.—You must be aware that I advise dealing only with members of the Stock Exchange. W. L. H.—Same reply as to "T. A. M." W. J. G.—Your experience is the usual one attending dealings with such people, and I am afraid that legal proceedings will mean throwing more good money after bad. J. E. G.—I do not like the system of either firm, and you had better not have anything to do with them. Blumcher.—I do not advise you to throw any more good money after bad by participating in these proceedings The lesson will not be thrown away upon you if you decide to have nothing to do with people of the McKinley, Alexander type in the future. J. W. C. (Lincs.).—Neither of these firms are members of the Stock Exchange, and I do not advise transactions with them. C. A. L.—I should advise you to leave the special Stock Combines of the United Share Corporation alone.

Late Issue of Shares.—Emmar.—I am afraid that you have little chance of getting out of your responsibility with regard to money paid on account of these new shares. Your only chance would be to combine with other shareholders in a general movement, but as the matter is in the Official Receiver's hands, no doubt he will do his best to see that justice is done.

Premium Bonds.—W. J. C.—It is quite correct that the two firms in questions, through whom you have been buying your Congo and Panama Canal Premium Bonds, are no longer in existence. I forward you the name and address of a foreign banker in London, who makes a speciality of these Bonds, and who will give you every information in return for a small fee. Suffar; G. H.—The address you ask for has been forwarded.

Salisbury, Rhodesia.—Jockey.—I think you are correct in your information, and in the near future there will probably be a market for these shares, which undoubtedly have some considerable possibilities.

Cuban Oil.—G. D.—You will find some remarks on this company in last week's issue of John Bull, and I do not see anything against it because there has been merely a delay. I think it is promising, but everything depends naturally upon the future of oil, of which I, however, take a favourable view. The documents are returned.

Wolfram.—E. H. C. B.—I send you by post the names of some of the principal metal brokers, but possibly some of my readers will be able to inform me, for your benefit, who would purchase Wolfram, of which you have concessions abroad, and which you could supply therefrom.

Canadian Debentures.—Widow.—Canadian Northern Railway 4 per Cent. Saskatchewan Guaranteed First Mortgage Debenture stock is a safe investment. The bank shares in question are quite sound, but not what is known as "safe." From that point of view, gilt-edged Colonial stock, such as Western Australian 3½ per Cent., would be more suitable for you.

£800 for Investment.—F. D.—Egyptian Unified is a good stock for the purpose, but subject to fluctuations in connection with international politics. Do not put all your eggs into one basket, but invest some of the money in, say, London, Chatham and Dover Debentures, Howard and Bullough 4 per Cent. Debentures, and Japanese Four per Cents.

American Rails.—B. C. B.—Northern Pacifics are a highly speculative American Railroad holding, and subject to sharp fluctuations. From that point of view, Home Rails would be far preferable. The English Association of American Bond and Share Holders, Limited, Great Winchester Street, E.C., will give you the other information sought. E. C. (Eastbourne).—Dealing in American Rails at the present juncture is more than usually hazardous, in view of the important developments ahead. However, upon balance the bulls should have the best of it, and the stocks mentioned are as suitable as any, especially if, as is reported, Union Pacifics are to be listed in Paris. The firm whose address I send you will give you all the necessary information as to operating.

Doubtful American Mines.—Sulphur.—These are very questionable American concerns, and any capital embarked therein may be considered lost. In future, have nothing to do with companies whose shares are puffed by circulars sent through the post. As regards the outside firm, I do not think it is necessary to give them another advertisement.

£100 Investment.—Dairy.—The mining shares are considered promising, but are, of course, highly speculative. From the point of view of safety, the Indian security is, of course, preferable.

Springs Mine.—E. R. H.—I do not advise a further purchase to average until more definite results of developments are available. Water troubles are impeding work considerably on the Far Eastern Rand.

Murchison Associated.—S. G. B.—As far as I am aware, the company is well managed, and is paying dividends. No reason for selling at present.

Winnipeg 4 per Cent.—Two Hundred.—The stock is fairly marketable, but as it stands at over par, you would lose the difference on redemption at that level. I prefer gilt-edged Colonial Government Bonds at below par, so that you would stand to gain something, instead of losing, on their redemption. I dealt with redeemable stocks in a recent issue, to which I refer you.

Local Loans.—T. C. (Poplar).—I do not advise you to sell now, but whether to hold until redemption depends upon circumstances. The stock is redeemable at the option of the Government after March, 1912, but it is likely to be a long time before this right is exercised.

Debenture Action.—Marsau.—I do not know how I can help you. The law's delays are notorious. Why not write again to the officials, and ask how the matter stands? Your solicitors should surely be able to obtain this information.

Two Industrials.—Ipswich.—Both companies are doing badly, and you had better get rid of the shares. As regards insurance against sickness, I am afraid you will not find a society willing to take you, in view of your age.

Bank and Other Investments.—Agent.—The London bank in question is, of course, first-class, but you are right not to put too much money into it, and I should think you would do well to invest some of your funds in Home Railway stocks. There is, for instance, Brighton "A," on which a dividend of 4½ per cent. has just been declared for the past year. The price is 99, and there is every prospect of a further improvement, while there is a ready market for sale again. Why not put £100 in this? It will yield you more than 4½ per cent., and it is a thoroughly substantial investment. You will also find some other suggestions in my article.

Land Proposition.—Careful (Tilbury).—I do not like the concern, and the shares offered are highly speculative.

Aguanico Mines.—Old Soldier.—My opinion is the reverse of favourable, and I do not like either of the other concerns. Get rid of the shares if you can, but I am afraid you will find this a difficult task.

4½ per Cent. Investments.—Marap.—All the stocks in question are sound, but are not exactly what is known as "gilt-edged." In the latter category no greater yield than about 3½ per cent. per annum can be obtained.

Oil Shares.—Oilite.—They are obviously highly speculative, but have possibilities on a buoyant market, especially while they are still obtainable at a discount. Quebec.—Some nasty attacks have been made upon the company, and although these have been denied, and some favourable progress reports published, the shares seem to be unable to rally to any extent. Do not load yourself up too much with them. Oil.—(1) Same reply as to "Oilite." (2) No option but to hold. Derbyshire.—Bakus are a fair speculation amongst Russian oil shares, but Maikop issues are also well worthy of attention. C. E.—You paid a high price for your Maikop Spies, but it is worth while now holding for a recovery. Bessy; L. O. L.—Hold these shares for an improvement with others, but instead of putting all your eggs into one basket, buy some of the other Maikop shares, such as Maikop Producers, London and Maikop, and Anglo-Maikop. H. F.—(1) Sell if you can, and re-invest in some of the Maikop shares mentioned to "Ilessy" above. (2) Write to the Secretary, who, I understand, is ready to answer all reasonable inquiries on the part of shareholders.

Rubbers and Oils.—G. (Kent).—(1) I do not like these shares, and you would do far better to stick to the leading descriptions, such as Linggi, Vallambrosa, and United Sumatra. (2) Leave these alone. (3) A promising enterprise of the kind. (4) You can do better in Kaffirs and Rhodesians. (5 and 6) My selection under No. 1 would be preferable.

Sherboro Trading Syndicate.—Glasgow.—Can anyone tell me anything about this concern? It appears to have paid a dividend of 15 per cent. on September 25th, 1908, but to have given no further sign of existence. It does not appear in the usual books of reference.

Gold Mine in Idaho.—Tasso (Denton).—I cannot advise you in your position to go into this concern. These new American Mines are always doubtful, and if you wanted to sell, you will not be able to do so, as there is no market here. You are, therefore, entirely dependent upon your friend's advice, and he may be deceived himself. At all events, if you want to invest in a gold mine, you ought to select one which is dividend-paying, and for which there is a market here to sell on.

Stockbrokers' Terms.—W. M. S.—If you deal on margin with a member of the Stock Exchange, he certainly would allow you the dividend whenever it is paid. With many outside brokers this is not to be relied upon, as they make special conditions. You should apply to Effingham Wilson, of Threadneedle Street, who are publishers of such kind of financial books.

Boots' Seven per Cent. Preferred Ordinary.—X. Y. Z.—I see nothing against these shares, as the undertaking seems to be very prosperous. You say that they are continually getting in new capital, and opening more depôts but this would not matter if the depôts pay, as apparently they do.

Publishing Shares.—Gambler.—Such shares are very speculative, and they seem to be high enough.

National Cinematograph Theatres, Limited.—A. M. D.—As far as I know, none of the theatres of this company have been opened yet. You should write to the Secretary, who will no doubt give you every information.

South African, Etc., Mines.—K. H.—(1) I am making enquiries, but I believe this to be a coming property. (2) Respectable. (3) Meyer and Charlton are first-class, and should be held. Randfontein Central are bound to rise, and although the amalgamation of the Randfontein South has not been popular with the market, there is every prospect of higher prices. Hold by all means, and buy more, to the extent you mention. I regret I know nothing just now to suit you.

Victoria Picture Palace.—Victoria.—A good speculative investment. £20,000 of the capital have been fully subscribed. These shares are not yet dealt in on the Stock Exchange, but a Special Settlement is going to be applied for, and when this is granted there will be active dealings.

INSURANCE REPLIES.

Insurance Enquiries should be addressed Insurance Editor, 93, Long Acre, W.C.

City Life Assurance Company.—Snibbo (Barry).—As promised, we have enquired into this matter, and it does not seem to us that you have ground for complaint. The position is not quite as you put it, seeing that during the eight years the original policy had been on foot, the company had covered for the same premium a risk of £227, or at the rate of £129 in excess. This practically is equivalent to a single year's risk at age 36, or 8 times £129—£1,032. The charge seems a reasonable one for the excess risk covered. F. W. C. (Penzance).—We should continue the policy.

Gresham Fire and Accident Insurance Society.—W. S. (Knightsbridge).—Yes, certainly.

Australian Mutual Provident Society.—Wireless (Glasgow).—The answer is in the affirmative.

Mutual Property Investment and Accident Company.—W. J. D. (Glasgow).—We should not. Shareholder (Liscard).—With reference to our reply to you in our issue of January 21st, Mr. George Burleton, of Lodway Cottage, Cimla Road, Neath, who is a certificate holder in the Mutual Property Investment and Accident Co., might be disposed to make you an offer for your shares if you put yourself into communication with him upon the matter.

Provident Association of London.—F. G. (Coventry).—Mr. W. S. Neale, of 12, Ct. 8 Hse. Gt. Russel Street, St. Georges, Birmingham, would like to communicate with you upon the subject of our answer to you in our issue of January 21st.

British Equitable Insurance Company.—Molly Bawn.—We know of no sufficient reason to induce you to drop your policy.

Validity of Claim.—T. C. W.—The question is whether the company is entitled by its regulations to charge a guinea. We are under the impression that it is. In that case, you have no grievance.

Two Companies.—J. C. (Weston-super-Mare).—Both companies are of high standing, and give you practically identical advantages.

Suitable Company.—V. O. (Maidenhead).—The Sun Insurance Company would suit your purpose.

Universal Insurance, Loan and Investment Company.—W. J. W. (Cornwall).—We are afraid you will find it difficult to obtain a refund of the premiums. We return your policies and correspondence.

Public Benefit Investment Corporation.—X. L. R. (Cinderford).—We know nothing to the contrary.

National General Insurance Co.—P. F. G. (Leytonstone).—The answer is in the affirmative.

London and Westminster Insurance Co.—C. L. (Liverpool).—We should say not.

British Widows' Insurance Co.—Lawsto (Bradford).—We do not like Tea Insurances.

Three Insurance Companies.—W. S. B. (Birmingham).—Of the three companies you name, we should be disposed to select the Equity Law.

An Assurance Society.—E. A. K. (Brixton Hill).—(1) It is sound, but we should prefer one of the larger offices. (2) It is not usual to give the statement you suggest.

United London and Scottish Company.—W. G. (Glasgow).—It is young, but sound and progressive.

National Provincial Insurance Company.—E. N. (Leicester).—(1) There is something to be said for the view held by your acquaintance.

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SOMERVILLE'S

Scotch Whisky

the finest that Scotland can produce.

AS SUPPLIED TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS, HOUSE OF COMMONS, THE TREASURY AND OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICES

Direct from Scotland at Wholesale Prices.

These Whiskies are the very finest that Scotland produces. Whisky to be good must be old. Why accept vague or indefinite statements as to age? Packing Free. Special Terms for large orders.

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GUARANTEED AGES.	POST FREE 2 BOTTLES.	Carriage paid to your railway station. 6 BOTTLES.	12 BOTTLES.
4 Years Old	9/6	18/6	36/-
6 Years Old	11/-	21/6	42/-
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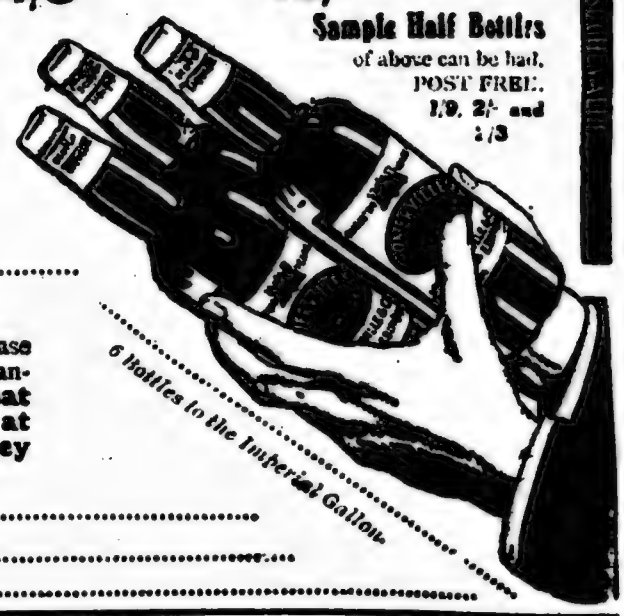

6 Bottles to the Imperial Gallon.

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To Messrs. John Somerville & Co., Ltd., Craigmillar, Edinburgh.

I enclose remittance, value..... for which please send me.....of your Specially Selected Fully Guaranteed ..... Years old Scotch Whisky **on condition that if it is not the finest Whisky I have ever tasted at the price I shall be entitled to have my money refunded.**

J.B. 4/2/11.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

HOW TO GROW HAIR

A SIMPLE, SAFE AND RELIABLE WAY THAT PRODUCES SURPRISING RESULTS.

NEW DRUG CRYSTOLIS CAUSES BIG STIR AMONG HAIR SPECIALISTS.

£200 REWARD If They Fail.

Cut Out Free Coupon Below and Post To-day.

Those who have become prematurely grey or who are troubled with falling hair, dandruff, baldness, itching scalp, etc., know full well the humiliation that they cause. There is no need, however, of such conditions. These troubles can be quickly overcome by Crystolis, the new drug recently discovered at the Creslo Laboratories. Since its discovery, a little over a year ago, Crystolis has been found to contain marvellous properties for producing a new growth of hair. In subjecting it to various tests in the worst cases of baldness, dandruff, itching scalp, etc., the results obtained by the experimenting chemists were considered almost miraculous. In every case it was found that where there were any hair roots left it would produce a new and luxuriant growth of hair in from four to six weeks' time. Grey or faded hair was often restored to its natural colour in from 10 to 14 days' time. In minor cases of scalp and hair diseases, such as dandruff, falling hair, itching scalp, etc., it was found that these unnatural conditions were corrected and often completely cured by two or three applications. The discovery of Crystolis will, without doubt, put an end to the troublesome scalp and hair diseases that are becoming so common with the British people. Women who have been forced into wearing false hair will greatly welcome this marvellous product as, apart from its many other virtues, it adds a beautiful gloss and lustre to the old hair. Besides, it contains no oil, and has a tendency to make the hair light and fluffy.

The managers of the Creslo Laboratories have such strong faith in Crystolis that we have been authorised to make the following remarkable offer: They will forfeit £200 in gold if they fail to prove that Crystolis actually grows hair. They will forfeit £100 in gold if anyone can prove they were not the first discoverers of Crystolis. They will forfeit £100 in gold if it can be proved that it contains any oil, dye, or colouring matter of any kind. They will forfeit £200 in gold if every testimonial and sworn statement which they publish is not absolutely genuine. Arrangements have been made with the Laboratories to furnish free information in regard to this new process to all JOHN BULL readers. Merely cut out and send in the coupon below, and you will receive free particulars of this marvellous new product by return of post.

Baldness, Dandruff, Itching Scalp, Etc.

FREE CRYSTOLIS COUPON.

Cut out this coupon to-day and send to Creslo Laboratories, 6, Bouverie Street (Dept. 261), London, E.C., for free information regarding Crystolis, the new discovery for growing hair. Good for 7 days to all JOHN BULL readers.

Toilet Coupon No. 261.

You can fix this solid 10/6 Lamp in a moment and read by electricity in bed at the fireside or at your desk.

There is no doubt about this lamp being the best half guinea lamp value London has ever seen. The height over all is 17 inches. The diameter of the tilting shade is 9 inches, and it may be had in any colour to match your room, inside lined white. The brass pillar is a true Corinthian Model, with key-switch at top and 3 yards cord from base to adapter. Take out your electric bulb, fit adapter, and put bulb in lamp, and it is ready. Order one now, and if it is not entirely to your satisfaction, return it, and we will refund cash in full. Price 10/6

Carriage paid in British Isles.

SELFRIDGE & CO. LTD.,

OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.

DR. COOK TELLS THE TRUTH.—VI.

THE REAL STORY OF HIS NORTH POLE EXPEDITION

TOLD BY HIMSELF.

(Exclusive for Great Britain to JOHN BULL.)

We commenced the publication of Dr. Cook's exciting narrative in our issue dated Dec. 31, and have, week by week, traced his progress towards the goal of his ambition the discovery of the Pole. This account of his almost superhuman struggles against the mighty forces of Nature we have printed in his own graphic language. His narrative does not appeal to the geographer alone—his earnest plea is made to mankind at large—not for the laurels to which the undisputed conqueror of the World of Ice is legitimately entitled—but for the verdict that, whether he achieved his life's ambition or no, he retains his right to the name of an honest man.

In our last issue we brought Dr. Cook's story down to the ecstatic moment when he was convinced by peculiar phenomena that he at last stood at the centre of "the roof of the world."

Intense emotions are invariably followed by reactions. After the first thrills of success, a profound feeling of loneliness oppressed me. I sat on my sled and listlessly watched the flag fluttering over the shelter in which my Eskimos slept. Hungry, mentally and physically exhausted, a sense of the utter uselessness of this thing, of the empty reward of my endurance, followed my exhilaration. I had grasped my *ignus fatuus*. It is a misfortune for any man when his *ignus fatuus* fails to elude him.

On April 22nd, we moved southward, pitched the silk tent and, after midnight, made a second series of observations. Then we started on the return journey. The longing ambition of the upward fight was gone, and reaction had full possession of me. Between cold, hunger and nervous exhaustion we were very near collapse. Fortunately, the first days passed rapidly and we made long marches. In eight days we covered, according to our calculations, over one hundred and twenty miles. If we had suffered on our struggle upward, with decreasing food and exhausted bodies, we suffered tenfold on our return.

THE MARCH SOUTH.

With scarcely enough food to reach our caches, were everything auspicious, we pursued our journey southward over the ice, aiming for Heiberg Land, which we hoped to reach within thirty days. Persistent fogs and broken ice long delayed our progress, while with unknown currents of water beneath us and obscured skies overhead we were hopelessly carried adrift far to the west into Crown Prince Gustav Sea—where open water and thin and cracked ice cut off our approach to Heiberg Land. To reach Annoatok by traversing Heiberg and Ellsmere Lands was impossible. We went south.

The northern coast of Ringnes Land was reached in the middle of June. From there we planned to push south and to board a whaling ship in Lancaster Sound, because in so doing a better chance for an early return to Europe was assured.

Some bears and seals were shot in Hassell Sound. Moving onward, we were stopped at Pioneer Bay by a jamb of small ice. Though the distance to Lancaster Sound was short, land travel was impossible. Yet without food we could not await the drift of the ice. Game was uncertain.

Our ammunition was nearly gone. Something had to be done to prevent famine. I decided to cross the land to Jones Sound. One grey morning—I dully realised it was the Fourth of July—I climbed to the highlands of North Devon to view the land. An icy rain suddenly began to fall, later a biting wind arose and froze our furs. A snowstorm followed. The caprices of the weather entailed untold suffering.

THE DOGS JOIN THE WOLVES.

We descended into Jones Sound on July 7th, and here a daily diligent search for food failed. The warmth of the season had melted the ice and the surface of the Sound was a mixture of floating ice and black water, with the ice predominating. The howl of wolves and the cry of birds came as a response to our calling stomachs. One day we did catch several ducks, and ravenously devoured them. Two dogs had left us from hunger and gone to join their progenitors, the wolves. I set the others free and let them join their wolf brothers. They were not useful for traction purposes, to feed them was no longer possible, they could forage for themselves.

Off Cape Vera we launched our canvas boat, and into it placed one of the sledges, which we had shortened and taken apart, and all our belongings, packed in waterproof fabric. We put out on the treacherous sea, scenting a storm before us. Soon after midnight a wind came in short puffs, followed by spells of deathly calm.

We expected something momentarily to happen. We examined the ice along the land—tall, jagged cliffs—and for a long while saw no possible landing place. The swells shortened and rose. We pulled desperately. There was no alternative but to land on the disrupted back pack, which rose and fell, grinding and rumbling and wearing into small pieces. The ice started westward, veering from the shore. Dragging the canoe and the sledge after us, we jumped over dividing leads of black water from one small floe to another. We paused on a floe—the wind struck us with such force we could hardly stand. Along the pack edge of the shore the sea hurled mountains of ice and foaming water. Over the floe on which we stood the marrow-freezing black water swept, wetting us to the skin. We shook as with palsy.

A USEFUL ACCIDENT.

From the distance, a low iceberg slowly gained on our floe. It loomed gigantically before us, like a great ship with ultramarine sails. It touched a neighbouring piece of ice and pushed us away. We paddled our oars and shifted our floe to the other side, only to find footing impossible in the surrounding mush. As the berg passed it left a lead of water behind it. Quickly we threw the boat into this and forced our way on to the berg.

After several hours the berg suddenly, without any apparent reason, took a course at right angles to the wind and deliberately pushed out of the pack forward to the seething open sea. For five months we had been battered by winds and cut by frost, but nothing compared to this.

After nearly twenty-four hours of suspense, sentinel packs of ice dragged our berg into the harbouring shelter of the pack. This was mere chance. Jumping from the berg we dragged our boat over a jamb of packed ice, where we launched it in an open lead. We followed this until we were again able to reach the shore across the pack ice.

A SORRY PLIGHT.

On our journey onward we caught gulls with traps made of looped line—and ate them raw. We had neither fuel nor ambition to cook them. Other birds fell to our sling-shot. About ten miles off Cape Vera we launched the canoe and pushed off desperately. To our horror, an invisible piece of ice jagged a hole in the port quarter. Water gushed into the frail craft. Fortunately, a floe was near, and while the canoe filled we pulled for the shore, reaching it not a moment too soon. There we mended the boat.

These are typical of our experiences on that return journey. Let me ask you in all reason and fairness, do you believe that a man would deliberately plan to hoax the world and go through two years of such life as this in order to prepare a foundation for a stupendous falsehood?

Place any man in the condition which surrounded me, the love of life which only the proximity of death can evoke colouring his mind and causing him to reach a state of mental unsoundness, and he will believe with the fervour of great unreasoning faith the pleasantest thing in his mind, the thing that will give him hope.

We reached Cape Sparbo, on the shores of Jones Sound, early in September. Our dogs were gone. Our ammunition, except four cartridges which I had secreted, was gone. Our equipment consisted of a half sledge, a canvas boat, a torn silk tent, a few camp kettles, tin plates, knives and matches. Our clothing was splitting to shreds.

(To be continued.)

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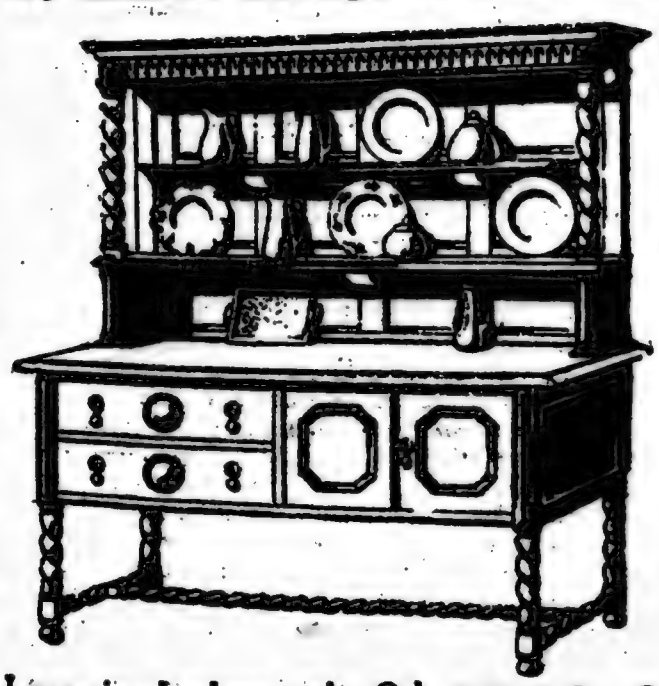

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or by other proportionate payments to suit purchaser's convenience.

IMAGINARY INTERVIEWS.

By Walter Moore.

MR. J. RAMSAY MACDONALD, M.P.

In the garb of an industrious and intelligent mechanic I called at 3, Lincoln's Inn Fields the other day, to interview Mr. J. Ramsay Macdonald, Labour M.P.

"'Tis cauld the morn, Macdonald, mon," was my greeting, as I entered his sanctum.

Mr. Macdonald looked up from his desk with a scowl.

"What do you want?" he demanded curtly.

"I say 'tis un unco' cauldrife morn the morn, mon," I repeated, with a slight variation.

"I don't understand Scotch in London," roared the Labour M.P. "Please state in English your business."

"Hoot, mon!" I cried, "dinna be sae dooms coupit. If ye *are* a wee sma' member o' Parliament, there's nae reason why ye suld buller laike a bullsegg. Are ye a Scot or no?"

"What's that to you?" growled Mr. Macdonald.

"Well, ye may be a true Scot, but ye're a jaloused Labour Member."

"Do you dare to say that to my face?" shouted Ramsay.

"Dinna glower at me laike a ghaist, ye lang-nebbit gomerit," I retorted. "Ye can skirl and skreigh, but ye'll no scaur me, mon."

This last brilliant effort of mine left Mr. Macdonald speechless. He gripped the arms of his chair convulsively and opened his mouth twice to speak, but no sound except a strangled gurgle issued forth.

"Now," said I, "we'll drop the Doric and come to business. Are you, or are you not, as true a Labour representative as in 1906, when you were first elected for Leicester?"

"I decline to answer," muttered Mr. Macdonald.

"Then I'll answer for you," I said promptly; "ye're *not!*"

"Why should you say that?" he asked.

"Because you are allowing personal ambition to take precedence of Labour interests. Instead of retaining your old position in Parliament, firmly consolidating your small but influential Party, making it a real power in the House, independent, fearless, determined to gain your legitimate ends, what do you do?"

Mr. Macdonald made no attempt to reply.

"You seek," I continued, "a minor post in the Government."

"And why not?" asked Ramsay.

"Because you cannot serve two masters," was my reply. "Do you think Redmond would be doing what he is for Ireland if he had accepted any one of the various Government posts *which from time to time have been offered him?* No, sir; Mr. Redmond was sent to the House of Commons by the Irish Nationalists to look after their interests—*and he does nothing else.* He is loyal to his constituents. *You* were sent to the same place to guard and forward the interests of Labour—and nothing else. But you have become a Party hack—perhaps the most ignoble beast that creation has ever produced."

Mr. Macdonald sprang to his feet, his hands clenched, his moustache making mysterious movements.

"Then you made a fool of yourself over the John Bull League. You know in your heart of hearts, as all men with a glimmering of intelligence *must* know, that a Business system of government is the only solution of the innumerable social and political problems which distract the country to-day. And yet you quibbled and evaded the plain, straightforward questions put to you by members of the League during the last election—because, I take it, you could see ahead of you a small, but snug little post under the Coalition Government! Man," I cried, returning to his native tongue, "are ye no ashamed o' yer'sel? Deil haet o' me what'll came tae ye if ye dinna get exauctorated."

"Come, get out of this!" yelled Mr. Macdonald.

"I'm ganging the noo," I replied.

"I'll have the law of you!" roared the infuriated Labour (?) M.P.

"Hoot, mon!" I returned, retreating in a masterly manner. "Gang an' pickle in your ain poke-nook. Ye'll hae nae damages o' me."

I was the first to reach the street.

THE ARMY—FROM WITHIN AND WITHOUT.

By Allan Sutor.

Business *versus* Politics.

If a shareholder of a great railway company accidentally discovered valuable rolling stock, of which neither the business manager nor anyone on his staff was able to give a satisfactory explanation, the effect upon the general body of shareholders would be to create alarm and anxiety. But in politics, a typical lawyer knows how to make the most of the opportunity. The following is one of Mr. Haldane's efforts in the House of Commons:—"Anyone who knows Surrey will find there certain curious structures. You will find there large wire fences surrounding seven to nine acres of land and within each a large construction that looks more like a water tank than anything else." He at once surmised that it contained £25,000 worth of ammunition! He goes on "I stumbled upon it the other day when taking one of my reflective walks abroad." He also congratulates himself on the accurate estimate which he made of the value of the ammunition. He says: "I estimated with an eye not wholly unpractised in these matters that it was worth £25,000." Then comes another compliment to himself: "What an advantage it is when you can get rid of these things by the aid of firm principle."

Any Old Boots?

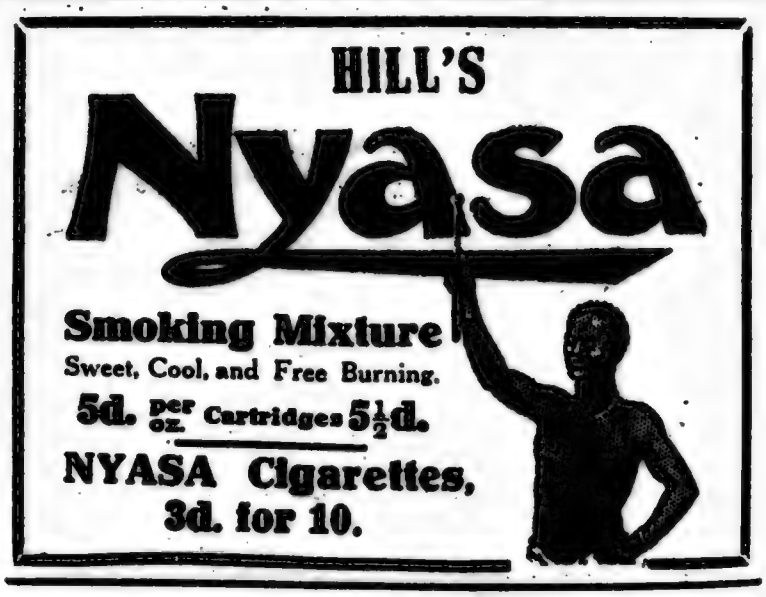
The following is a station order at Allahabad:—

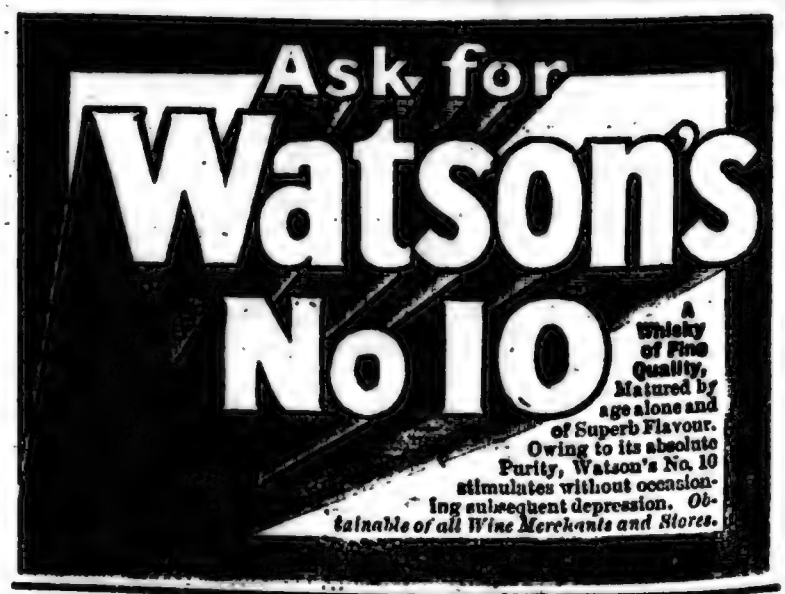
28-12-'10.

No. 395 R.A. Station.—Board will be assembled at the Quartermaster's office, 1st Middlesex Regiment, on Tuesday, January 3rd, 1911, at 9.30 a.m. for the purpose of reporting on *a pair of boots considered prematurely worn out*, in accordance with Para. 19, Q. R. 1, Vol. XI.

President, Major F. C. Humphreys, 12th Cav.
Members: A Captain to be detailed by O. C. 1st Middx.
A Subaltern ditto.

The above means a good week's work. But, to relieve the strain, it is spread over two or three months.

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A Whisky of Fine Quality, Matured by age alone and of Superb Flavour. Owing to its absolute Purity, Watson's No. 10 stimulates without occasioning subsequent depression. Obtainable of all Wine Merchants and Stores.

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"Look at that pair of skinny scarecrows! Why don't they try Sargol?"

This is a generous offer to every thin man or woman who reads this announcement. We positively guarantee to increase your weight to your own satisfaction, or you need not pay anything. Think this over—think what it means. At our own risk we offer to put 10lb., 15lb., yes, 30lb. of good, solid, permanent flesh on your bones, to fill out hollows in your cheeks, neck, or bust, to get rid of those unhealthy looks, to rejuvenate and re-vitalise your whole body until it tingles with vibrant energy; to do this without drastic diet, "tonics," severe physical culture, detention from business, or any irksome requirements—if we fail it costs you nothing.

We particularly wish to hear from the excessively thin, those who know the humiliation and embarrassment which only skinny people have to suffer in silence. We want to send a free 2s. 6d. package of our new discovery to the people who are called "scrags" and "laths," to bony women whose clothes never look well, no matter how expensively dressed, and skinny men who fail to gain social or business recognition on account of their starved appearance. We care not whether you have been thin from birth, whether you have lost flesh through sickness, how many flesh builders you have experimented with. We take the risk and assume it cheerfully. If we cannot put pounds and pounds of healthy flesh on your frame we do not want your money.

The new treatment increases the red corpuscles in the blood, strengthens the nerves, and puts the digestive tract into such condition that your food is assimilated and turned into good, solid, healthy flesh instead of passing through the system undigested and unassimilated. Sargol is founded on a thoroughly scientific principle, and builds up the thin, weak and debilitated without any nauseous dosing. It is far better than cod liver oil, and certainly is much pleasanter to take.

Send for the 2s. 6d. box to-day. Convince us by your prompt acceptance of this offer that you are writing in good faith and really desire to gain in weight. The 2s. 6d. package which we will send you free will astonish you. We send it that you may see the simple, harmless nature of our new discovery, how easy it is to take, how you gain flesh privately without the knowledge of friends or family until you astonish them by the prompt and unmistakable results.

We could not publish this offer in JOHN BULL if we were not prepared to live up to it. It is only the astonishing results of our new method of treatment that makes such an offer and such a guarantee possible on our part. So cut out the coupon to-day, and post it at once to the Sargol Company (Dept. 71), 124, Holborn, London, E.C., and please send three penny stamps with it to help to pay the distribution expenses. Take our word, you will never regret it.

FREE SARGOL COUPON.

This Certificate with Three Penny Stamps, to help pay postage and distribution expenses, entitles the holder to one 2s. 6d. package of Sargol, the Flesh Builder.

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of the ladder, I.C.S students are daily rising to positions of power, influence, and control.

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A Scientific Cure for **Neurasthenia, Mental Exhaustion, Brain Fag, Weak Heart, Want of Nerve and Confidence, Harassing Dreams, Loss of Memory, Backache, Dyspepsia, General Weakness,** and most disorders due to a deficiency of the Vital Forces.

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ZEDEX Co. HOVE SUSSEX

THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY

By M. Clement Scott.

Lewis Waller at the Palladium.

Undoubtedly Lewis Waller, with his exceptionally fine West-end company, now appearing in the great Forum scene from Shakespeare's "Julius Cæsar" at Walter Gibbons' magnificent Palladium in Argyll Street, Oxford Street, has done more to raise the tone of the ever-increasing popularity of the music-halls than any of his brother and sister theatre artistes (save Seymour Hicks, and he, poor dear, was made to stop), who have done nothing, comparatively speaking, but produce paltry little plays and sketches that rarely reached beyond the foot-light radius.

Scholars who desire to think, and strangers all eager to applaud, flock eagerly to the seats of the vast new variety house, and from first to last Lewis Waller creates an impression so deep that he sends the masses away with minds stored with food for reflection, and intellects sharpened and stimulated.

You may perhaps disagree with a line as it is spoken here, you may take exception to the want of polish there, but you cannot get away from the fact that, for dignity of delivery, and clear, vigorous understanding, there is no actor on the stage to-day who could command more profound attention than Lewis Waller does as Marc Antony in the immortal "William's" blood-stained drama.

In appearance he reminds me much of the famous German tragedian—Herr Barnay—whose success in this country was instantaneous, and whose entrance on to the stage in the Forum scene was made, not as Waller's is, with both hands covering his eyes, but with his face hidden by his left arm, whilst the right was lifted as though in protection over the dead body of Julius Cæsar.

But Waller does not seek to quiet the violent mob with jests—he tries to shout them down, which seems a pity, for he lessens his grip in this way. The actor's sonorous tones should ring out powerfully when the din of the crowd is hushed, not follow on to the tail end of a deafening noise. The value of a pause after the people's screaming for Cæsar's will to be read—a complete silence followed by Marc Antony's reply—would be an immense improvement, and one would possibly then manage to get a glimpse of the "wolf whose claws were writhing to tear" by the subdued force with which Waller could then speak the familiar lines.

I submit that it is a severe trial for any music-hall "turn" whatever, to gain the ear of an audience after witnessing so tragic and absorbing a performance as the one given by Lewis Waller at the Palladium, and suggest that, for the sake of those in front, and also for those standing in the glare of the lime-light, that the Forum scene be put last but one in the programme, that is to say, before the showing on the bioscope of the pictures which have now become the recognised prelude to "God Save the King."

"Cinderella" at the Lyceum.

The ever-favourite fairy story of "Cinderella and her Glass Slipper" has surely never been more sweetly re-dressed than it is now at the Lyceum Theatre. To begin with, the story is as clear as noonday to every child, and the Prince and "Cindy" two of the most charming pantomime figures you can possibly imagine. There is no attempt at elaborate development—it is a straightforward splendid entertainment, which delights the grown-ups just as much as it does the little ones, and if your sides don't ache with laughter over the quaint antics of Foreman and Fannan, then all I can say is you have no sense of fun in you at all. As the two ugly sisters, Miss Florence Smithers plays the one and Mr. Scott-Barrie the other. This latter's make-up is quite remarkable; but small Miss Marjory Carpenter is such a pretty dancer that she might be given just one more "hop" or so to do. Never mind, to see the packed houses themselves are sights not to be missed, and to watch the enjoyment of the crowds makes you yourself feel happy. Mr. Newman Maurice, who is responsible for the "book," has done his work well—there is not a slack moment in the entire show.

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730,000 shares have been subscribed at par by the London Venture Corporation, Limited, and their Associates. This £73,000 provided the company with the purchase money and a cash capital of £30,500. The remaining 270,000 shares are in reserve under option at 3s. per share. The directors of the company are:—Mr. R. N. G. Bingley, Mr. L. T. Boustead, the Hon. Edward Coke, Mr. J. W. Davy and Mr. W. H. Glanville. The company has acquired the Sampang Peundoey and Tjimangsoed estates, and a contract to purchase an undeveloped forest area known as Pasir Boedjal. The total area is about 4,071 acres, of which about 1,020 acres are planted with Hevea Brasiliensis rubber, about 800 acres being interplanted with coffee. Tapping will commence this year, and increase at a rapid rate; and coffee profits should also mount quickly. The estates were acquired on the recommendation of Mr. R. N. G. Pingley, whose detailed report is available. He considers that the issued capital of £73,000 will suffice for bringing the 1,020 acres already planted into bearing, and for planting up considerable further extensions. The London Venture Corporation, Ltd., on behalf of themselves and their associates, are making an offer of 500,000 2s. shares, for which they have subscribed at par, for sale at the price of 2s. 3d. per share. Full particulars and forms of application to purchase may be obtained from Lloyds Bank, Limited, 72, Lombard Street, London, E.C., or from the London Venture Corporation, Limited, 5, Moorgate Street, London, E.C.

Has the Elixir of Life been Discovered?

AMAZING RESULTS OF GREAT HEALTH DISCOVERY ANNOUNCED TO-DAY.

MYSTERIOUS EFFECTS ON THE HUMAN ORGANS OF A WONDERFUL BASIC SERUM, WHICH OVERCOMES ILLNESS AND REJUVENATES THE BODY.

OFFICIAL PRINTED PARTICULARS NOW AVAILABLE, AND WILL BE SENT POST FREE TO THE AILING.

There is announced to-day a mysterious serum, which, whilst according relief in cases of severe illnesses, apparently, from the statements made, actually introduces into the body not a mere stimulating force, but life itself. Although the discovery has been made by a Continental scientist, he has already sent particulars to his confrères all over the world, and so important do British scientists consider this matter that they are making every effort to place the information at once in the hands of those who are ailing.

The amazing successes that have attended the application of this wonderful new health discovery has aroused on all hands the question: "Has the Elixir of Life at last been discovered?"

NEW HOPE FOR NERVE SUFFERERS.

The official printed particulars now available, and which by special arrangement are to be distributed direct to those who are ailing, reveal facts that must at once convey a flood of new hope to those suffering from nervous disorders or troubles arising from the faulty circulation of impoverished blood.

Among those who have watched tests of the new basic serum, as the new discovery may be best described, the greatest enthusiasm prevails, for it is realised that it is now possible to treat practically any disease, and without drugs to give back to those who have lost their vitality—those who suffer weakness, loss of nervous force—those who are neurasthenic—the very elements by means of which the body and brain take on new life.

It is not too much to say that the new basic serum introduces new life-force to the body, giving those special substances which are quickly changed into "grey matter" for the brain, muscular tissue, and nourishment for the blood.

The marvellous results already obtained show that the new brain serum has the power to actually rejuvenate. It does not stimulate, like so-called tonics and drugs, but has quite a mysterious exhilarating effect once it enters the body. It creates new life, and by setting up new conditions in the blood renders the presence of disease impossible. In the shortest possible time its effect is noticed by the smoothing out of wrinkles, the return of colour to the cheeks, and added zest in pleasure, and a new power to think and to act. Brain fag, slackness, insomnia, and such symptoms entirely pass away.

Were it not that proof beyond all question is obtainable, proof given in the printed particulars, which are to be distributed free, it would be impossible to make the statements here set out. The discoverers of "Neurovril," the name the new basic serum is to be known by, have a record of cases that are certainly the most wonderful and most convincing ever collected.

ENDORSED BY SCIENTISTS.

The scientific endorsement by scientists of all schools of the Neurovril System is most enthusiastic. The recognition that this serum does really introduce the actual means of rebuilding brain and body tissue, and does not merely stimulate, has led to its wide adoption in private practice.

The close study of individual cases proves that "Neurovril" actually supplies to impoverished blood new red corpuscles or phagocytes, and does supply those constitutional elements that are transformed into nervous force. These are facts that physical tests prove.

FOOD FOR NERVES, BODY, AND BLOOD.

Neurovril not only is food for the nerves, it is also food for the body and blood. Enriching the life streams of the human system, it stamps out illness and proves a check against troubles such as rheumatism, gout, sciatica, that would otherwise force their way into the body.

As age, excess or illness has brought on the premature wasting of natural functions—the power to think—the power to do—so will Neurovril bring back that wasted power. Drugs will not help you, though they may temporarily stimulate. Neurovril alone, being Nature's Food—the essence of virile life itself—can give to the mind a clarity and working-power never before enjoyed, to the body a lightness and brightness, the true possession of ripe manhood and womanhood, and to the general appearance a freshness and youthful healthiness that is the sign of virility.

The new serum is a nerve food for use in cases of

Loss of Memory,	Melancholia,
Headache,	Irritability.
Exhaustion,	Slackness,
Nervous Weakness,	Nervous Prostration,
Brain Fag,	Paralysis.

It is a blood food for use in cases of

Anæmia,	Impoverished Blood,
Rheumatism,	Kidney Troubles,
Sciatica,	Disordered Liver.

It is a physical food for use in cases of

Wasting Tissue,	Thinness,
Lack of Muscular Vigour,	Aged Appearance,
Weak Back,	Premature Decline.

The wonderful result after even the first dose will be a delightful sensation to those who have long lost the vigour of full manhood or womanhood.

The official printed particulars, which will be sent to any ailing or weak person who sends his application to the address given below, contains a special report from one of the most famous of French scientists, M. Jules Gille, and what is, perhaps, of more interest, a complete and most interesting record of cases where the new basic serum has been adopted with amazing success.

These particulars, which have been most carefully compiled, and which are free of all unnecessary technical terms, will at once enable any ailing person to appreciate how and why "Neurovril" is able to effect a cure in his or her particular case.

The discoverers of this revolutionary principle in curative science desire that no person who is ailing will fail to apply for the full particulars, which will show how, without lengthy treatment, interference with business routine or social pleasures, health, vitality, and strength are once more introduced to the body.

All applications for the free official particulars should be sent to the Secretary, The Neurovril Company, 95, New Bond Street, London, W.

Furnishing out of Income— A Question of Figures.

This Article Explains in Detail How Any Person with Even a Moderate Income May, Without Heavy Outlay, Secure a Well-Furnished Cottage, Flat or House.

A WEST-END FIRM'S IMPORTANT ADVICE.

Everybody nowadays knows that it is possible to secure a well-appointed, well-furnished house without the necessity of immediately defraying the whole cost of the same, but what everybody does not know exactly what arrangements a really reliable house will make with those who desire to take advantage of such a system.

So that every person who desires to re-furnish or to establish flat, house or mansion, may know exactly what are the most advantageous terms on which furniture may be obtained, Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander have supplied the following information, which is of the utmost interest.

It must be understood that Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander stand at the head of the furnishing business, and their method of business has formed the basis on which all others have endeavoured to model themselves.

Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander's system, which enables the clerk with £100 a year or the rich man to furnish out of income is simply this:

You first of all are requested to call at the Wolfe and Hollander showrooms, 252-256, Tottenham Court Road, where, without interference from importunate salesmen, you may examine at leisure the really splendid stock of furniture displayed.

In order to suggest ideas in furnishing, several model rooms have been arranged which will at once appeal for their tastefulness, combined with common-sense simplicity.

Having examined the immense stock, and by the aid of the firm's very interesting furniture book (a copy of which will be sent in advance to any address on application), chosen those articles desired, and having reckoned out the prices of same, the next matter is payment.

Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander ask those who desire to extend their payments over one, two or three years, firstly to make a payment of 10 per cent. or 2s. in the £ off their purchases. The furniture chosen is then delivered to the address given, and subsequent payments are arranged exactly to suit the convenience of the purchaser.

Some purchasers may desire to arrange for weekly payment of small amounts, others may desire to arrange larger monthly instalments or even quarterly payments, whatever the desire may be, the directors of Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander are quite prepared to fall in with any suggestion made. It is of course impossible to have any hard and fast rule, as no two people's incomes and expenses are the same.

The Wolfe and Hollander idea of making the first payment a very small one will be exceptionally gratifying; it expresses confidence in the public and confidence in the value of their own goods.

To clearly indicate in figures how furniture of the highest-class obtainable is purchased at Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander's, let us give a practical example.

You have secured a flat or house, say, of six or seven rooms, you desire to spend £50 in furnishing the same. Well, you select the articles desired, either from the furniture book sent you, or by calling personally at the showrooms, 252-256, Tottenham Court Road. Having made your selection, you make a first payment of £5, and the goods are at once delivered.

Should your requirements amount in value to but £25, your first payment is £2 10s., and in the same way, should your furniture selections value £100, your first payment is £10, with subsequent payments as you desire. No order is considered too small or too large to execute, and should you have any special taste, your wish can certainly find satisfaction in the immense stock Wolfe and Hollander display.

In regard to the actual goods themselves—and this is an important point—Wolfe and Hollander secure only the very best quality articles manufactured. All are guaranteed to possess long-wearing qualities, and to represent at the prices quoted the highest possible value.

All goods are clearly marked at cash prices, and for the convenience of extending payment over a period only five per cent. is added to the cash cost. Thus £100 in cash costs but £105 deferred over a period, and your first payment is but £10 10s; £50 costs but £52 10s., and your first payment but £5 5s.; £20 but £21, and first payment £2 2s.

Those readers of JOHN BULL who feel that such a system as is here outlined is clearly one that with confidence can be adopted, are asked either to call at the Wolfe and Hollander showrooms, or send for a copy of the furniture book, which will be posted gratis and post paid on application.

Please address your application to Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander, Ltd., 252-256, Tottenham Court Road, London, W. The firm's telephone numbers are 1850 Gerrard and 14299 Central. Telegraphic address: "Wolfhol," London.

The John Bull League.

BRANCH REPORTS.

Birmingham.—The attention of Executive Committee is now being concentrated on the formation of local committees for the Secretary, Mr. C. L. Kay, with the assistance of the various local secretaries, is pushing matters forward very rapidly. The various districts comprised in the Centre, and the Central committee of the Lozells district, the formation of which was recently completed, are arranging a series of meetings, and are making great efforts to become the leading branch of the Birmingham Centre. The local secretary for Small Heath, Mr. J. Parker Crees, of 66, Aubrey Road, has convened a meeting at the Park Restaurant, 478, Coventry Road, on Monday next, February 6th, at 7.45 p.m., for the purpose of electing a district committee. All members in the neighbourhood have been notified and invited to bring their friends. A vigorous plan of campaign will then be discussed, and Mr. Crees will be glad to receive and submit any suggestions from members. Mr. C. L. Kay has received several invitations to attend local debating societies to champion the cause of the League, which he has arranged to accept. Particulars will duly appear in this column.

Bristol.—A meeting of members will be held in the course of the next week or ten days, when Mr. C. L. Kay, the secretary of the Birmingham Centre, will deliver an address on the objects of the League. Further particulars will be announced in due course.

Hull.—A meeting has been convened for to-morrow (Friday) evening, at the Oddfellows' Hall, Charlotte Street, at 8 p.m., for the purpose of electing a committee and officers. After the recent concert a considerable number of members were enrolled, and it is hoped that all those on the register will make a special point of attending this meeting—ladies being specially invited.

Leicester.—The attention of members and their friends is particularly called to the announcement of a meeting in the Corn Exchange, Leicester, on Thursday next, February 9th, when ex-Lieut. Allan Sutor will give an address on Army Administration. A very limited number of tickets for reserved seats can be obtained on application to the local secretary, Mr. E. Pinder, of 6, Bakewell Street.

Liverpool.—Great interest is being evinced in the visit of Mr. Sutor to the St. George's Hall to-morrow (Friday) night, particulars of which will be found in the advertisement on the first page of this issue. Mr. John Jones will preside.

Leeds.—The third concert organised by this branch will take place on Saturday next, February 4th, at the Victoria Hotel, Great George Street, to be followed on Thursday, February 9th, by a whist drive at the Old Bank Restaurant, Commercial Street. The number of tickets for the latter is necessarily strictly limited, and immediate application must be made to the hon. local secretary, Mr. D. A. Macdonald, of 24, Savile Place, Chapeltown Road.

Manchester.—A very successful whist drive was held at Messrs. Lyons' Café, Market Street, on Saturday, January 28th, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. The prizes, which were very much admired, were presented by Mr. Councillor Ross Clyne, the chairman of the branch. We are requested by the local secretary to announce that he will be pleased to meet members and their friends at the Carlton Restaurant, Peter Street (opposite the Midland Hotel), to-night (Thursday), at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of discussing matters incidental to the work of the branch. Ladies are also invited.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—The usual monthly meeting took place on Wednesday, January 18th, at the Hotspur Hotel, Newcastle, when Mr. S. S. Wherley presided. After a brief address by the chairman and the local secretary, who dealt with the work the branch had accomplished since its formation, an excellent concert was given.

Sheffield.—Arrangements have now been completed for the grand whist drive and dance at the Royal Victoria Hotel, on Friday, February 24th. Tickets are now on sale and can be obtained from the local secretaries at 53, Idsworth Road, Pitsmoor, and 258, School Road, Crookes; also of Mr. T. W. Dey, Pitsmoor School of Dancing, 107, Burngreave Road, Pitsmoor, and Messrs. Crane and Sons, Lady's Bridge.

Plymouth.—A public meeting will be held in the Foresters' Hall, Octagon, Plymouth, on Monday next, February 6th, when an address will be given by Mr. C. L. Kay (central secretary, Birmingham District) on the objects of the League. Doors will open at 7.30, and proceedings commence at 8 p.m., admission being free. A few seats will be reserved for members producing their badges, but the general public will be heartily welcomed, and discussion invited.

(*For Membership Coupon see page* ii. *of Cover.*)

A REMINDER.

Don't forget that MRS. BULL'S wonderful serial story — "SEKHET" — begins next Tuesday.

The Electric Cure is Popular.

As Pleasant as it is Effective.

It is grand to put on an electric battery while lying down resting, and feel its exhilarating influence in every nerve and muscle. There is no inconvenience attached to it in any way. One hour's daily application is sufficient. There is not the slightest shock or irritation, but a gentle, soothing warmth that goes direct to the nerve centres. That kind of electricity cures, and the cure it gives is permanent.

People will sometimes try an ordinary battery (made, no doubt, for commercial purposes), or a shocking-current, which irritates the nerves, and conclude that electricity is not suitable. It will not do any good in that form. The current must be given without shock—without irritation of any kind—and in this way the very weakest individuals can be built up.

No person is too weak to use electricity. In such cases a longer building-up process is required. But the results are just as certain as water is to extinguish a fire when applied in sufficient quantities. If a proper battery is used, it is possible to supply a very strong current, free from all inconveniences.

How much more pleasant it is to be cured in this way, while resting, than to be pouring medicine into the poor, weakened stomach, until it is impossible to do without it. This drug habit grows on one, like the whisky habit; and no wonder, as alcohol forms the chief ingredient of many preparations. It is simply adding more poison to the weakened organs. Why not stop it?

Rheumatic sufferers, those crippled with Lumbago Sciatica, or Gout; the victims of weakened stomach, kidneys, liver, bowels, or bladder; the person with the shattered nervous system, and suffering from Paralysis, Epilepsy, Neurasthenia, Insomnia, Neuralgia, or Heart Trouble, should seek a restoration of health in the electric cure. Don't say, "It might not do me any good!" It will do you good, if you resort to the right means. It will cure you.

There is a book for free distribution among all readers of John Bull which covers this subject fully. You should not be without it if you are not in possession of perfect health. It tells the cause of weakness and disease, and how a cure can be had. It describes the most successful remedy known—the "Ajax" Dry-Cell Body Battery. The history of many cases is sent with the book. It costs you nothing to get it.

It is not an exaggeration to say that electricity is doing more to-day for human ailments than any other known remedy. The users of the "Ajax" Battery universally endorse it. Mr. Thos. Lewis, 33, Urban Street, Pen-y-darren, Merthyr Tydvil, says: "Since I have been using the battery the pains have gone, and I feel like a different man." A report from Mr. John Allen, 6, The Promenade, Chiswick, is most encouraging: "I am highly pleased with the efficiency of the battery, as it has done for me all you claimed for it. I have been careful to say nothing until I have been satisfied that the circulation of my blood, which was in a very congested state when I consulted you, was quite normal after treatment." A severe case of stomach and bowel trouble was reported cured by Rifleman J. Henning, 4th Company, Rifle Brigade, Winchester, Hants, in these words: "I am happy and pleased at the wonderful way your electric battery has done for me. I used to suffer with indigestion, pains in the back, stomach out of order, and now I can safely say it has all disappeared."

At the International Exhibition, the "Ajax" Battery secured the Grand Prix with Gold Medal. The award was issued by the special medical section of the Exhibition, and endorses the system of applying electricity as well as the battery. This is the only electric treatment to secure such an honour. It is also supported by the *Science Siftings* Certificate of Merit.

Write at once to The British Electric Institute (Dept. 41), 25, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C., and you will receive by return post the most valuable book ever published on the subject. It is sent in a plain, sealed envelope. If near enough to call, please come and test the power of electricity free.—Advt.

AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY.

£25,000 GIVEN AWAY!

NEW SYSTEM OF RAPID MONEY-MAKING.

In order to place before every reader of "John Bull" the Golden Opportunity of acquiring a FREE SHARE in an industrial concern with FREEHOLD LAND SECURITY, arrangements have been made by a well-known firm of Bankers to distribute

100,000 FREE SHARES

representing £25,000, Without any Cost or Liability Whatsoever to Applicants.

JOSEPH LEITER,

who has made several huge fortunes in extraordinary short periods of time. Few men in the world's history have made money multiply itself so rapidly as Joseph Leiter.

It is open to every man or woman to learn how money makes money. No one can become wealthy on the 2½ per cent. per annum interest such as is paid to those who deposit their money with bankers and others, who themselves use it to bring in from twenty to thirty to several hundreds per cent. profit.

These Shares will be issued in STRICT ROTATION, therefore it is important to reply at once if you intend to grasp this WONDERFUL CHANCE OF ACQUIRING SOMETHING FOR NOTHING which may be worth, in the course of a week or two, a crisp Five-pound Note.

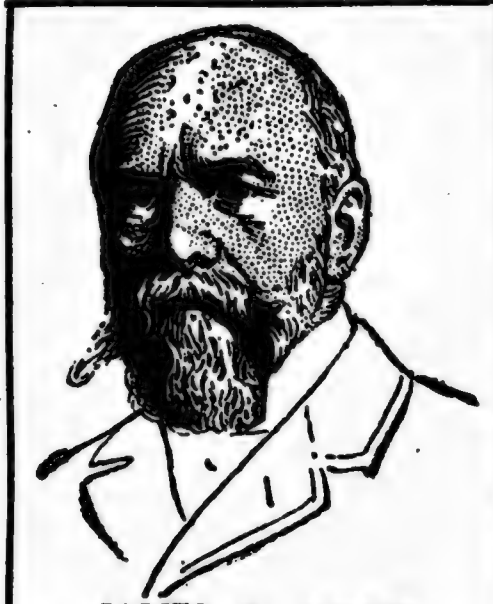
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO

is to write your name and address plainly on postcard, put a ½d. stamp on it, and

Post at Once.

This is an offer made to the thrifty saver, and a **CHANCE OF A LIFETIME**. It is in no way connected with Premium Bonds or Lottery Tickets. All the Bankers wish to do is to put before 100,000 people an Illustrated and Coloured Prospectus of an opportunity that will produce a fortune.

IF YOU RECEIVE NO REPLY you will understand that the whole of the 100,000 Free Scrip have been applied for.



JAMES R. KEENE

Started his money-making career with a very small amount of money. In a very short while he made £2,000,000.

Readers now have the opportunity of learning something of the same methods whereby Mr. Keene made his money.

So Don't Delay. Apply at Once.

Everyone who wants to make money will be delighted at this announcement. To-day an unprecedented opportunity is given to every reader of this paper to make large profits with small sums, from a few shillings upwards. "Money Makes Money"—so runs the old phrase—and if you possess a spare sovereign you are now given the chance to prove its truth. For, free of all charge, you will be sent to-day full particulars of a system of rapid money-multiplying by which your sovereign may be increased to two, three, four, or five sovereigns, your £5 to £25, £50, or £100, your £10 to correspondingly larger sums, and so on to fortunes. All you have to do is to write to the address given below, and by return you will be sent, free of charge, a Free Share without Cost or Liability.

Remember, 100,000 Free Shares

representing £25,000 without any Cost or Liability.

In February the number to be distributed is only 5,000

SO WRITE AT ONCE.

WRITE TO-DAY.

Your opportunity is NOW. There is no need to look for an opening: it is here this very instant, staring you in the face.

Don't put this paper down with the remark, "I'll see about it."

Those who say "I'll see" generally "forget." Strike while the iron is hot.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO

to secure this wonderful opportunity is to simply write your name and address on a ½d. postcard, and post it NOW.

You can Test the Genuineness of this Offer at once by sending a Postcard to

UNITED SERVICE SHARE EXCHANGE,
Dept. J.B., 2, Army and Navy Mansions, 115, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

Telephones: 5227 and 110 Westminster.
Telegrams: "Ussharex, London."

NOTE.—"ONE APPLICATION ONLY IS ENTERTAINED FROM EACH ADDRESS. ANY DEVIATION FROM THIS RULE WILL MAKE VOID ALL FUTURE BENEFITS ACCRUING."

BULL'S EYES.

Notes of Interrogation:—
Is the Veto policy of the Government to be "straight forward"?
Hasn't "Peter" slipped "the Painter" by this time?
Isn't "Old-age pensionners" a better description?
Isn't "Weight and Sea" Austria's policy also?
Must we spell it "Trip-all" Alliance?
Isn't the Japanese way of dealing with Anarchists a "capital" one?
Have we still the "Lion's share" of the world's trade?
Isn't there something "signally" wrong with our railway systems?
Will the Mall improvement *make* Charing Cross?
Hasn't King Manoel got an "income" from his "outgoing"?
Isn't "more daylight" needed in the House of Commons?
Aren't investors losing interest in Consols?

"Life is not a pastime," says the Rev. J. D. Jones. No, but it is frequently a wreck-creation.

It is untrue that the driver of the taxicab destroyed by fire in the City recently is to be prosecuted for scorching.

"Expressions change very much," says Judge Rentoul. Yes, especially in the dock, when a man gets five years' instead of being let off.

"It is far more important to be just than to be sympathetic," says the Rev. J. H. Rider. And it's cheaper too, as a rule.

Bath's sewage scheme is to take two years, and a Navvies' Club has been formed for the men employed. We suggest "*Infra dig.*" as a motto.

"Bill and Bill" appears among the marriages arranged. The little bills will come later.

"The Trap" is the name of a new play. The "setting" ought to be perfect.

'Editor as Host," reads a heading. He generally has to be—in himself.

"Man Who will not Open his Eyes," reads a headline. We know one or two things that would make him.

Willesden is right in providing free spectacles for school children; the object of education is to make the scholars see things clearly.

"What was Napoleon like?" asks the *Daily Mail*. We thought Lord Northcliffe settled that long ago.

Eight Territorials have been summoned at North London for non-efficiency. The authorities seem determined to make them smart.

The statement that, after being blind for twenty-five years, a man regained his sight simply by rubbing his eyes, will make some folk do likewise.

How flat the jokes appear when you read them in the dentist's waiting-room!

How different the office looks when you leave for your holiday, to what it does the first morning of your return!

What a difference when the shopkeeper takes you for a customer and finds you are a traveller!

How we despise the caterpillar, yet admire the butterfly!

A Japanese lady has started business in London as a dentist. A fitting profession for the yellow race.

Mr. Lloyd George's shepherd seems to have gone a little bit crook.

Every worker knows that the bed is more comfortable week-day mornings than Sundays.

The *Express* has been giving away egg-beaters. To smash the foreign yoke?

Sir Rufus Isaacs: "The Bar is not a bed of roses." But witnesses are often on thorns.

Books to be Shelved:—
"All the World Wondered." No wonder.
"Billy." The hero acts the goat.
"The Pound of Flesh." Weighed and found wanting.
"Songs of Myself." The subject is poor.
"The Divine Archer." Hits the mark.
"Creatures of Clay." The writer shapes well.
"The Way of the Soul." Difficult to follow.
"Declined with Thanks." Rather disappointing.
"The White Peacock." The tail is attractive.
"Off the Main Road." A "wrong turning" story?
"Gliding." The story moves easily.
"An Adventure." Somewhat risky.

Drug Addiction
AND ITS TREATMENT.

Among the causes which are contributing to the growth of drug addiction in Great Britain must be reckoned the use of certain self-administered household medicines which would be entirely beneficial in their effect if used solely for the purpose for which they are designed. Many well-known remedies obtainable at any chemist's contain morphine or its derivatives, and the use of them begun innocently enough frequently leads to gradual exces, until the taker awakes to the painful knowledge that he is in the grip of a relentlessly unmerciful and destructive habit. To these sufferers and to all others who have become addicted to the use of laudanum, opium, or morphine in any form or from any cause, the St. George Association, of No. 4, Southampton Row, London, W.C., has arranged to give gratis a bottle of its treatment in order to prove the wonderful curative powers of the method employed. Applications for a free trial bottle may be made to the Association by letter, or in person, or through a deputy. Each case is treated according to its special circumstances by the physicians of the Association who prescribe accordingly. This method of painless home treatment is due to the research work of Dr. Carl Lehner, of Berlin, who brought it to its present extraordinary efficiency, some 21,000 cases having been treated here and abroad with practically universal success. The fact that the treatment gives perfect support to the patient and that no restrictions of any kind are placed upon him during treatment will be appreciated by anyone who has submitted to the harsh measures formerly employed, which only result in physical pain, mental anguish, and disappointment. Recognising the fact that many patients suffer in secret, each case is treated in absolute confidence, and all envelopes, packages, bottles, labels, etc., are such as to convey no information to anyone but the patient. The St. George Association gives special attention to intricate cases referred to them by the medical profession, and these are earnestly solicited.

SPECIAL ABILITY

is often very hard to market. There are many men with a Special Knowledge or aptitude which fits them to occupy Responsible Positions who somehow cannot get into touch with the opportunities they seek. We have large numbers of High Grade Positions open which call for, and pay for, Special Ability. If you think you can fill one of them—and your record is good—write us to-day—or call.

HAPGOODS Ltd., 167-8, STRAND, LONDON, W.C. Barton Arcade, 55b Deansgate, Manchester.

NOW READY. *Price* 1s.; *by post,* 1s. 2d.

AN INSURANCE POLICY AGAINST ROGUERY.

Truth Cautionary List, 1911

Order at once of your Newsagent or Bookseller.

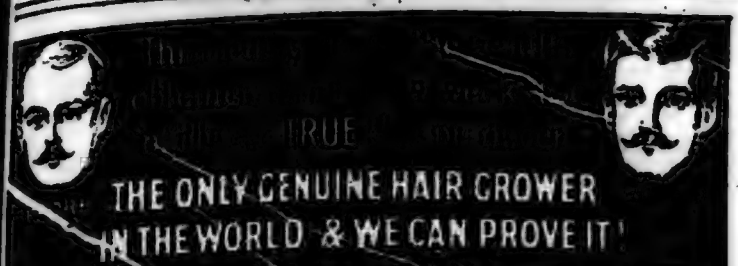
"Truth" Publishing Office, 10, Bolt Court, Fleet Street, London, E.C.

ARE YOU EVER LONELY?

You would not be if you joined the Ideal Correspondence Club. A unique club organised to promote correspondence friendships between congenial people all over the world. For mutual interchange of ideas and a wider outlook upon life. No restricting rules. Write to Secretary for particulars. I.C.C., 22, GARFIELD ROAD, FINSBURY PARK, LONDON.

BE SURE TO LOOK AT THE OUTSIDE BACK COVER.

The Popular Scotch Whisky is—
BUCHANAN'S "BLACK & WHITE."



ARE YOU BALD?

HAVE YOU USED ALL OTHER HAIR RESTORERS WITHOUT SUCCESS?

IF SO, TRY PHILLIPS' "TRUE" HAIR PRODUCER.

Don't throw money away on any so-called "Restorers" unless it is PROVED to you that it is a GENUINE HAIR GROWER. Phillips' "TRUE" Hair Producer is the discovery of a PRACTICAL HAIRDRESSER. It is NOT A DYE, and will NOT alter the colour of the hair. It is sold by all Chemists and Stores (including ALL branches of BOOT'S CASH CHEMISTS, Ltd.), at 2/6 per bottle. Ask for Phillips' "TRUE" Hair Producer, and see that you get it.

DON'T ACCEPT SUBSTITUTES—SHUN THEM.

If you have any difficulty in obtaining it, send us a P.O. 2/6, together with the name and address of nearest Chemist, and we will send a bottle privately packed) post free to any address in the United Kingdom. Foreign postage extra.)

We especially appeal to those who have WASTED money on so-called "Restorers" which have had no good effect, and we offer to PROVE TO YOUR OWN SATISFACTION, that Phillips' "TRUE" Hair Producer IS A GENUINE HAIR GROWER. All you have to do is to send us 3d. in stamps (to cover cost of postage and packing), and the name and address of your usual chemist. By return of post you will receive a

FREE SAMPLE.

Used as directed:—If you are SATISFIED (as we KNOW you will be) that Phillips' "TRUE" Hair Producer IS A GENUINE HAIR GROWER, **THEN** buy a bottle. This is an HONEST and STRAIGHTFORWARD offer, and it will COST YOU NOTHING to PROVE TO YOUR OWN SATISFACTION, that the

HAIR CAN BE REPRODUCED.

DON'T DELAY SEND NOW TO THE BRYNAMAN TOILET CO., BRYNAMAN, SOUTH WALES

Sozodont

FOR THE TEETH.

Buy Sozodont now and use it night and morning.

Buy it because the tin is convenient and handy.

Buy it because Sozodont has a pleasing flavour.

But, more than all, buy it because it is the dentifrice that possesses antiseptic and cleansing properties of inestimable worth. It frees the entire mouth from impurities, it prevents decay, and it never contains anything that will damage the delicate enamel of the teeth. As good for artificial as for natural teeth.

Sozodont Tooth Powder in 6d. and 1s. hygienic tins. Also in Liquid and Paste. Chemists and Stores everywhere.

HALL & RUCKEL,
London and Manchester.

EUGEN SANDOW says:—

"PLASMON

is the essential food I have so long wished for, and I would never be without it."

Plasmon and Plasmon Cocoa, 9d., 1/4, 2/6
Plasmon Oats, 6d.

PLASMON IS USED BY THE ROYAL FAMILY.

PRIVATE DETECTIVES

KIMPTONS

Prompt
Reliable
Honest

CONSULTATION FREE.

Telephone: 8727 Gerrard.
Telegrams: 'KIMPTONISM, LONDON.'

71 STRAND, W.C.

When tired do you know the value of a

MUSTARD BATH

A hot bath to which is added a couple of tablespoonfuls or so of
COLMAN'S MUSTARD

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[The Editor *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and its date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and only* THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPES ARE SENT FOR THE PURPOSE. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The Editor *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., as, *though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance; if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.*

"Fifteen Years a Conductor" (North London) gives us the other side of the question about the *non-stopping of trams* at the appointed places. He says "the people who complain about not stopping are those who take the car and all thereon as their own personal property." We have no doubt, as in every other case, there are two sides to this question.

Messrs. Binns and Co. sent us one of their *wholemeal loaves*, in the hope that it would expedite our recovery from our recent illness, but when we enquired about it we were told that the lady members of our staff had eaten it that tea-time!

A. J. (North Shields).—It is true that many *Foreign States* to whom we have lent money have defaulted in the payment of both principal and interest, but that is a very different thing to our having "lent the money free of interest."

Mr. H. Stanmore (Rainham, Kent)—apropos of the paragraph in our issue of January 21st relating to the complaint of *C. G. S. (Wimbledon Park)*—writes us that on January 2nd the eggs were despatched, with a full apology for delay. He sends for our inspection a batch of original testimonials, which seems to show that he is conducting a legitimate business.

N. W. B. (Ealing), however, also complains of Stanhope, saying that she sent money to him for two dozen eggs, and "after repeated letters, postcards and police threats, received eighteen, all of which were rotten."

F. J. S. (Exeter).—We suppose the organisers of the *competition* want to catch as many shillings as they can.

A Persian writes to say that his name, being interpreted, is Mr. Eatwell, and that no *boarding-house* will take him in. He wants us to suggest a suitable alternative. Why not Persian Cat?

"One Seeking Advice" has got into difficulties through swine-fever, loss of a valuable horse, excessive rates, etc. She wants to know if we think she can restore the fortunes of her house by taking tickets in *Hungarian lotteries*. We don't think.

H. S. (Tunbridge Wells) wants a *Business Church*. But surely that is almost a contradiction in terms.

A. W. W., jun. (Limehouse).—We have not yet been sent for by the King, so it is a bit early to publish a list of *our Business Cabinet*. You must wait and see.

"Sister Bill." (Belfast).—We cannot advise you about marriage with your *deceased wife's sister*, as we don't know the lady.

E. G. Y. (Nottingham) objects to the *records* published to induce people to buy motor cycles, and says push cycles have beaten them. Surely not, as they were paced by motors.

A. W. F. (London, E.C.) enquires about the *Johnson Secret Wireless Telegraph and Telephone Testing Syndicate Co.* (40, *King Street, Cheapside*).

C. S. H. (Headlands, Mashonaland) writes: "Lo-ben had no more right to the country than you had. The *Mashona* to-day are a lazy, drunken, grossly immoral (*sic*) crowd of semi-savages. Under Lo-ben they were slaves. It is very doubtful whether their newly-gained freedom from pillage, rape and slaughter is beneficial or appreciated." What nice Christian sentiments!

"An Interested Reader" (Herne Hill).—Of course, if your maid was foolish enough to undertake to pay instalments for a *watch and chain* when she was already responsible for an illegitimate child, she really ought to be looked after by yourself. How on earth are we to protect foolish people against themselves?

"One Who Has Suffered" complains that *newspaper boys* are not allowed to have papers on sale or return, as newsagents do.

G. G. (Cardiff).—Perhaps the lady who had her *purse*, containing £17, returned by a porter, and said "Thank you," thought she was being polite. If we found a purse and gave it to a lady, we should be rather hurt if she offered us 3d.

H. A. F. (Willesden).—We believe *Jim Crow* is rather anxious to learn Spanish just now, but would like to know your sex.

C. A. B. takes the trouble to write to us to ask for the name of a *foreign correspondent*, to whom he can forward his copy of John Bull every week when he has read it. All foreign correspondents buy us.

F. W. (Green Lanes) complains of an *advertisement* in a daily paper for a "doorman, soldier or sailor," for a bioscope theatre, and the requirement of a deposit of £3 for a £1 situation. This is not necessarily a fraud, but we never advise the payment of deposits by people in search of employment. We always imagined that it was the employer who paid as a general rule.

A. H. (Clarence Gate).—We quite agree that verminous persons should be discouraged from standing in the *queue outside theatres* and inconveniencing clean people. We confess we have never quite understood the reason for the queue. Why cannot cheap seats be booked in advance as well as expensive ones? Isn't this a democratic age?

"Bristolian" claims to be "a *respectable money-lender* doing business in an honourable and straightforward way," and he protests against fee-snatchers who bring his calling into disrepute.

"Mantle" (Dungarvan).—*Plant* is well-named.

(*Continued on page* 182.)

"ERASMIC"

BRITISH & BEST

Users of foreign Shaving Soaps may regard them as "good enough," but when they have tried "Erasmic" they quickly decide that nothing is "good enough" except the "British and Best."

In Nickel Case, Price 10d.
Trial sample 2d. stamps.
Money returned if not satisfied. What could be fairer?
The Erasmic Co., Ltd.,
(Dept. K.), Warrington.

Osteopathy FREE

Our Valuable 100 Page Book on Drugless Healing

FREE

This free book explains the **Theory** and **Practice** of the latest and best method of **Drugless Healing** and shows a correct way to master disease without the use of injurious or habit-forming drugs.

We send you this interesting book **Absolutely Free** to tell you all about Mechano-Therapy—the Recognised System of Drugless Healing which pays

£600 to £1,000 Yearly

In a few months by our system you can begin practising Mechano-Therapy—an elevating and highly paid profession for men and women. Endorsed by physicians. A fascinating study, easy to learn. We teach you in your own home by mail or in class and guarantee success—an ordinary education and our course of instruction fits you for a professional life. Authorized diplomas to graduates. Work absorbingly interesting. Vast opportunities for social and financial betterment. Special terms now. Write to-day for our 100-page book on Osteopathy, 81-page illustrated prospectus both **free.**

WONDERFUL MONEY-MAKING POSSIBILITIES
For Men and Women.

READ WHAT OUR GRADUATES SAY:

Makes £5 to £6 per day.
E. L. Stout, M.T.D. writes: "I now get patients from four different States, and make as high as £5 to £6 per day."

Am Having Remarkable Success, Average £4-10s per day.
H. J. Harness, M. T., writes: "I have only been practising one month and am having remarkable success. I am treating seven to ten cases every day and get 10/- per treatment."

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The most up-to-date, best known and most successful Remedy in the World for
COUGHS & COLDS
Invaluable to SPEAKERS, SINGERS, and all who suffer from THROAT WEAKNESS.
CAUTION.—Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.
This is the Best, Cheapest, and Safest way to recovery.
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COUPON. *"John Bull." Feb. 4, 1911.*

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GENTLEMEN'S "Footshape" Boots are made in eight different sizes: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 11 (size 12, 1/- extra). Each size is made four different widths. No. 3 width (for slender feet); No. 4 (medium); No. 5 (wide); No. 6 (extra wide).

Altogether you have 32 different sizes and widths to select from.

If size is not known, send an old boot, or draw outline of stockinged foot on paper. (Outline of boot is of no use.)

WE GUARANTEE PERFECT FIT OR MONEY BACK.

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Address -

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Name.....

Address .....

T. S. (Willesden).—We did happen to be aware that Jews keep *the Sabbath*, but that is no reason for advocating genera. misery on Sundays.

W. S. (Nailsworth) wants to know whether *Mr. J. Chamberlain* ever did any manual labour in his life. Surely he used to make screws.

"Gadzooks" (Islington) heard us accused of going into *public-houses* and very properly replied that, if we did so, it was to see that they were decently conducted. So now our character is safe.

"Old Reader" wants to know what a *Cockney* is. We always thought it was someone born within the sound of Bow bells.

A. J. (Darlaston) sends us particulars of a *racing system*, but, as it depends on the excellence of three tipsters, we have our doubts about the regularity of the income to be derived.

C. F. (West Kensington).—No licence or registration is necessary for starting a *private detective agency*.

E. T. (Acton) has been bilked by a tenant, and thinks it disgraceful that the *Post Office* will not give up the man's address.

A. R. (Boughton).—No notice to other countries would be necessary, as a preliminary to *Tariff Reform*.

"Domestic Servant" (Bristol) wants us to tell her all about the conditions of *domestic service in Germany*, but that is rather a big order. What does she specially want to know?

"An Englishman Who Knows" says that *telephone operators* are very badly treated and may not even speak to one another.

"A Reader" (Plaistow).—We believe *Guardians* often charge their expenses of meals, &c., upon the rates, but cannot say whether there has been any change since Mr. Burns came into office. Why not ask him.

G. E. D. (Lutterworth).—We really cannot devote valuable space to chaffing your friend for *shooting fowls* when aiming at a rabbit. Such accidents have occurred ever since the invention of fire-arms.

"A Constant Reader" says the *staff in many big hotels* receive food unfit for human beings to eat. Then why not give us full particulars, so that we can go into the matter more fully?

R. C. (Windsor) asks why *bank clerks* are such a helpless class, seeing that they have all the advantages of a sound education, and ought to be able to combine quite as well as "their poorer and more ignorant brothers." They are probably too conservative to approve of Trades Unions.

T. J. (Sutton) wonders whether it is usual to ask for *cash security* of £25 and a telegraphic deposit of £5 in order to secure a theatrical engagement.

H. S. (Canonbury) complains about an *alarum clock* which he bought at King's Cross for 2s. 9d., with a guarantee about which he entertains doubts.

"Globe Trotter" trotted *home from America* with "a half-dozen maniacks in cells." They appear to have been refused admission to the United States. But if, as he says, they originated in Birmingham, we cannot complain about their return.

J. H. (Edinburgh) wants to be a *tax-gatherer*, but we think he might with advantage adopt a more pleasant profession.

T. J. (Liverpool) visited a local *pawnbroker* "to lift an article," but the wretched man "refused to give him the pledge." This sounds very drunk indeed.

"Constant Reader" (Balham).—When celebrated persons consent to open *bazaars*, surely they ought not to be expected to spend huge sums of money as well.

A. G. B. (Parkstone).—It certainly sounds unnecessary to mention in an *advertisement for a manager* that the last one embezzled.

"Old Print" (Croydon).—We are afraid we cannot help to the extent of *valuing pictures*.

Mrs. E. A. N. (Stoke Newington).—We are afraid we do not agree with you about the advisability of encouraging our police to collect fines from everyone they think they see *spitting*. That may be all right in America, but we must not add to the responsibilities of our coppers.

"Slade" (Ilfracombe) informs us of the death of *the Spanish prisoner*. But we have our doubts.

F. A. (Saltley) has been disappointed by a *tipster*. What a singular experience!

"Puzzled" wants to know what possible use *kings* can be. Well, he will soon find out.

G. D. W. (Liverpool).—What on earth made you imagine that *our Biscuits* were made of gingerbread? They are pure *pain d'epices*.

A. A. (Grangemouth).—We have not yet published a *Black List of Football Accountants*, but there is no knowing what we may be driven to do some day.

H. L. (Johannesburg) thanks us for our courtesy in *publishing a letter* which we have no intention whatever of publishing.

"Welshman" (Woodstock, Cape Colony) appears to want to keep *Asiatics* out of all British colonies. Would he like to turn them out of the Indian Empire?

F. J. S. (London, N.) complains that *postal servants who give evidence* have to surrender their fees to the Postmaster-General. Well, he has surrendered their time.

A. St. K. (Covent Garden) calls us "a Christian and Pagan Hercules," and pays us a number of other *unintelligible compliments*.

H. L. (London, S.E.).—We are inclined to be suspicious about all *Snowball Coupon Schemes*, and think that, if you want tobacco, it will turn out much better to buy it in the ordinary way from a tobacconist.

"Markitt" (Tunbridge Wells).—The poor *poet* thought he was a humorist.

A. K. (Tufnell Park) tells us about an *office* where the old-fashioned high stools have given place to comfortable chairs, with backs to them. This sounds almost too good to be true.

W. D. (Edinboro') complains that he had to pay 7s. 6d. to have *gas* in his house. He had better remove to Westminster.

H. L. M. (Burton-on-Trent).—Sorry we can't tell you how to start in *journalism* as a lobby correspondent at £1,000 a year. Why not get elected to Parliament as a preliminary? As you know, it costs nothing and entitles you to view the Coronation.

A. E. D. (Llanelly).—We don't know "what these islands would be without *our moral whip*." Rather uppish, we fear.

J. H. (Rugby).—We really cannot undertake to value the *alleged jewellery* which your lodger left in lieu of 2s. for board and lodging.

"An English" (Cape Colony) writes to enlighten us about the dangers of *German aggression*, but we have quite enough scaremongers at home already, thanks.

F. N. (Brixton).—Surely the insufficient number of *lavatories* at a laundry is more a matter for the Inspector of Nuisances than for us.

(We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.)

FACTS FOR DOG OWNERS

WE ARE IN A POSITION TO POSITIVELY DECLARE THAT UPWARDS OF

900 PRIZES

Awarded at One Show

WERE WON BY DOGS REGULARLY AND EXCLUSIVELY FED ON

SPRATT'S FOODS

COULD YOU HAVE BETTER PROOF OF THE SUPERIORITY OF "SPRATT'S" OVER ALL OTHERS?

Write for Free Samples and Booklet,
SPRATT'S PATENT LTD., 24 & 25, FENCHURCH ST., LONDON, E.C.

WHY NOT SEE WELL?

The Aiglon Treatment restores the worst sight to normal perfection. It is harmless, easy to apply, inexpensive and unfailingly efficient. We are ready to allow you a free trial—we back our assertion at our own risk by inviting you to test our remedy free of charge.

If your sight is not perfect, or if your eyes are tired, or if they water, send us four penny stamps to help cover the cost of packing and forwarding, and you will receive the remedy by return of post, with full and explicit instructions.

Do not forget that you must keep your eyes in perfect condition if you wish to preserve fair sight to an old age. To comfort yourself that you can buy glasses is insufficient. Glasses do not cure, they only correct the sight—they are the crutches of the eye.

Cut out the Test Coupon below and return same to Philip & Williams, 6, Goschen Building, Henrietta Street, London, W.C.

SPECIAL TEST COUPON.

Send this Coupon, enclosing four penny stamps, to Philip & Williams, 6, Goschen Buildings, Henrietta Street, London, W.C., when you will receive by return of post, a free trial treatment.

Nervous Breakdown

Spermnum is the natural source of health and vital strength, isolated and purified from organic bases.
In the form of the Essence, Spermin acts as a REVIVER of VITAL ENERGY, and so stimulates healthy body juices, which resist disease and retard vital decline.
NERVOUS BREAKDOWN, FATIGUE from OVERWORK and MENTAL and PHYSICAL EXHAUSTION brought about by OVER-INDULGENCE in ATHLETICS will find a corrective in Poehl's Spermin Essence.
It is of SPECIAL CURATIVE VALUE in all DISORDERS of the BLOOD, the NERVES, and the HEART.
Sold in original bottles under the warranty of the ORGANO THERAPEUTIC INSTITUTE of Professor VON POEHL & SONS, by all Chemists, at 8/6 per bottle.

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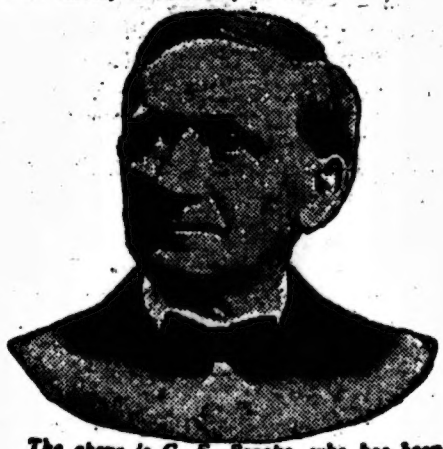
I SEND IT ON TRIAL.

If you have tried most everything else, come to me. Where others fail is where I have my greatest success. Send attached coupon to-day and I will send you free my illustrated book on Rupture and its cure, showing my Appliance and giving you prices and names of many people who have tried it and are extremely grateful. It is instant relief when all others fail. Remember, I use no salves, no harness, no lies.



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I make it to your measure and send it to you on a strict guarantee of satisfaction or money refunded, and I have put my price so low that anybody, rich or poor, can buy it.
I send on trial to prove what I say is true. You are the judge, and once having seen my illustrated book and read it, you will be as enthusiastic as my thousands of patients whose letters are on file in my office. Fill out free coupon [illegible]

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C. E. Brooks, 101, Bank Buildings, Kingsway, London, W.C.
Please send me by post in plain wrapper your Illustrated Book and full information about your Appliance for the cure of rupture.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

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Please write plainly.

ASTHMA BRONCHITIS

Chronic Cough and Bad Breathing.

CURED AT 63.

Mr. Hall.

Mr. Tom Hall, the well-known proprietor of the Queensbury Arms Hotel, Regency Square, Brighton, writes: "I am 63 years of age, and suffered from asthma for about three years, and lately my breathing and chest has been so bad that I coughed night and day, and no treatment did me any good. Then I tried Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, and after four doses only my chest was quite relieved, and my breathing easy, my cough gone, and now I feel a new man."

Awarded Grand Prix and Gold Medal, Paris Health Exhibition, 1910.

Veno's Lightning Cough Cure is the Safest and Surest Remedy for

COUGHS & COLDS, BRONCHITIS, WEAK LUNGS, INFLUENZA, SORE THROAT, **9½d.** *a bottle.* ASTHMA, NASAL CATARRH, CHILDREN'S COUGHS, OLD-AGE COUGHS, BLOOD SPITTING.

Larger Sizes 1/1½ and 2/9, of all Chemists.

VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE.

The "MASTA" for Pipe Lovers.

The "Masta" possesses a scientific but simple device which absolutely prevents any nicotine or moisture from reaching the mouth or pipe bowl. It ensures a cool and dry smoke to the end, and allows you to enjoy the full flavour of the tobacco.
There are no parts to get out of order, and the pipe can be easily cleaned. The "Masta" can be thoroughly enjoyed by those who cannot smoke an ordinary pipe.

Made of best selected briar.

Every pipe guaranteed.

Section of Straight Pattern.

Obtainable of all leading tobacconists. Price 2/6, 4/-, 5/6, 8/-, &c. Cheaper quality, 1/-. Write to-day for free booklet, "Points on Pipes." Full of useful hints.

MASTA PIPE CO. (Dept. 9) 153 FLEET ST., LONDON E.C.

ASTHMA SUFFERERS.

Instant Relief in Asthma, Bronchitis, Croup and Whooping Cough by the use of **Potter's Asthma Cure**, in ½/- Tins. Sold everywhere. For FREE SAMPLE send post card to POTTER & CLARKE, LTD., Artillery Lane, London, E. (Mention this Magazine.

Instant Relief.

THE

LIVERPOOL VICTORIA

INSURANCE CORPORATION, LTD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL £421,403

Life. Fire. Accident. Motor. Burglary. Plate Glass, etc.

'THE BUSINESS WOMAN'S' INVESTMENT POLICY.

No Medical Examination required. Prospectus sent on request.

AGENCY APPLICATIONS INVITED.

HEAD OFFICE:

45-49, HOLBORN VIADUCT, LONDON, E.C.

RACING NOTES.

By W. LOTINGA.

("*Larry Lynx*" *of* THE PEOPLE, "*Double U. L.*" *of* LOTINGA'S WEEKLY, *and* "*Magpie*" *of* THE GLOBE.)

They all know it.

If horses are out of form, it doesn't matter what an owner or trainer may do, they can work no good, and it can only be a question of time and rest.

The Present Type of Fences.

That it is absolutely essential to do something, and to do it promptly, cannot be denied, for nine out of ten among owners, trainers, and jockeys complain bitterly of the unfair type of steeplechase course for horses to race over. People are frightened to put their animals to the game, trainers are declaring that they will not school horses to try and jump them, while jockeys, plucky as they are, vow that this unfair increase of their risks is simply courting accident.

The Need for Proper Ambulances.

It ought to be compulsory for every race executive, even at the smallest of jumping meetings, to have a horse ambulance for instantaneous use. Everywhere someone among the executive surely owns a cob, which could stand in the shafts in the centre of the ground, or follow the races round, so as to be as near as ever possible to the scene of an accident. The expense would be absolutely nil. When an injured jockey is left lying for some time on the ground, apart from the liability of aggravating his injuries and prolonging his pain, it is a fact that the greatest trouble with the nurses, when they do receive their patients, is that they cannot get the circulation back again, owing to the injured man having been left prostrate on the cold or damp ground for so long.

Handicapping.

A fixed penalty is, in my opinion, utterly wrong, especially when made to apply to topweights, who should never be unreasonably crushed out of a race. In contrast, we often see a nominal 3 lb. or 5 lb. extra earned which is inadequate, and especially at the back-end it is common practice to follow penalised horses. Just as handicappers have to judge the value of the horses' form and running in allotting the original weights, so should it be left to them to judge what is the interim value in poundage of a horse's victory, and to penalise him accordingly, whether it is with 1 lb. or with 21 lb., so as to still give him, as also to the others running against him, an equal chance, which is the meaning of the word handicap. The horse may, with the greatest luck, scramble home by a head, and should not then have a 10 lb. or a 14 lb. penalty. On the other hand, a thrown-in candidate may have a stone in hand and run away with the race, obtaining only a 5 lb. extra, which is no bar to him in the future, and spoils the subsequent race. We had a case in point when Bronzino had only to carry 5 lb. extra for winning the Doncaster Cup in the style of a smashing good horse. In athletics, the man who made the original handicap can use his discretion how far he puts a man back for a win during the week previous to the race, and so it should be in racing, for it is only common sense, and there could be no argument against it. It would be absolutely fair to every owner, and only against those who had been saving a horse to run through a sequence of events, with the obvious certainty that he had on previous occasions not been "fancied." And they are the sort to be suppressed, not considered. A new rule to this effect would not only be fairer, but would encourage straightforward running, and prevent the planning of coups.

Prophetic.

Windsor's finish to prelude quite a good card at Sandown. SMITHFIELD should get his turn at last, either in the Borough Handicap to-day (Thursday) or the Mole Handicap at Sandown, whilst, if saddled for it, BRIERY must on no account be missed in the Claremont Hurdle Handicap at Esher. If ZINGARELLA is unpenalized, the little mare ought to make atonement for previous disappointments in the Epsom Maiden Steeplechase, whilst between the disappointing CEDRUS and JEMIMA the Four-Year-Old Handicap ought to rest.

WITH the acceptances for the Lincolnshire Handicap and the Grand National, most sportsmen are bent on trying to find the winners of the "double event," and we understand that Mr. Douglas Stuart, of 102-104, New Oxford Street, W.C., and Flushing, Holland, is already busy booking all sorts of big odds. By the way, Mr. Stuart's "Sportsman's Companion" for 1911 should be secured by all intending clients.

DOUGLAS STUART

102-104, New Oxford Street, London, W.

ORIGINATOR OF NO LIMIT

combined with

PLACE COMMISSIONS

when Favourite starts "Odds On."

BUSINESS AT ALL MEETINGS.

State your requirements fully, and open

A CREDIT ACCOUNT

The most Liberal Terms combined with ABSOLUTE RELIABILITY.

Also at FLUSHING, HOLLAND, for those wishing a DEPOSIT ACCOUNT.

FULL MARKET Price at time of posting instructions guaranteed.

SYSTEM SPECIALIST without any commission.

Books now open on the

LINCOLN AND NATIONAL.

J. McLAUCHLAN,

Estab. 19 years. { Turf Accountant, etc., FLUSHING, HOLLAND.

Write for Price List, Rules, Ready-reckoner, etc.

FUTURE EVENTS A SPECIALITY.

LINCOLN, NATIONAL, etc., Double and Treble events.

The Well-known Liverpool Sportsmen

FRED ALF

GOLL & BIRCHALL

beg to announce that they have books open on

Lincolnshire Handicap, Grand National, Waterloo Cup.

Apply for terms, etc., to FLUSHING, HOLLAND. Id. post-card.

BERT FRY

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MEMBER OF TATTERSALL'S

FOOTBALL or RACING.

Bert Fry's cheques are the same as cash. Payment for same will be made across the counter of a bank in 50 of the largest towns in the United Kingdom.

FREE FOR A POSTCARD.

A postcard sent to-day will bring you within 24 hours H. Samuel's Illustrated FREE BOOK OF WATCH AND JEWELLERY BARGAINS.

Save money by purchasing from H. Samuel direct. Write Now!

H. SAMUEL, 199, Market St., MANCHESTER.

10/6 and Gold Ring set with real pearls and fine centre stone

The Clemak Safety Razor—at 5s.—is Made as Well and Shaves as Well as any Guinea Safety Razor.

The CLEMAK is the ONLY *first-class* Safety Razor on the market which is sold at a FAIR Price.
If you are using one of the old-fashioned open-blade Razors—you should get a Clemak *at once*. It cannot "pull" the beard—prevents soreness and irritation. Gives a clean, cool, comfortable shave—every time. Impossible to cut yourself—you must shave at the correct angle.
The Clemak Safety Razor is BRITISH MADE—simple—strong—durable. The Clemak complete 5s. Outfit consists of Triple Silver-Plated Frame (beautifully finished); Self-contained Stropping Handle; and Seven Perfect Blades. These blades are made of the Finest Grade Sheffield Steel, hardened and tempered by a Special Electric Process; the whole contained in a case, size 2 ins. by 3¼ ins.

CLEMAK Safety Razor 5/-

YOU DON'T THROW AWAY THE BLADES OF A CLEMAK SAFETY RAZOR—YOU STROP THEM.

You can strop Clemak Blades by using the Stropping Handle—but we recommend everyone to buy a Clemak Stropper—price 3s. 6d., including a good leather Strop. It compels you to strop at the *correct* angle and pressure. Ensures a keen Blade for every Shave—*with no expense for new Blades*. It saves its cost many times over, because it eliminates the expense of new blades which you must have with other Safety Razors. The Clemak Safety Razor and the Clemak Stropper is a perfect Shaving Combination. They cost altogether 8s. 6d., and last a lifetime. Why pay a guinea?

Obtainable from Cutlers, Ironmongers, Stores, etc., or Post Free direct from Clemak Razor Co. (Room 4), 17, Billiter Street, London, E.C.

"His First Shave," 2nd Edition. A story for shavers young and old, humorously illustrated by Arthur Hanabridge, post free, on application.

JUNON AROMATIC BATH MUSTARD.

The business man who wakes up in the morning feeling "stale"; the hostess who is suffering from late hours and the fatigues of entertaining; will find real benefit in a JUNON Bath-Mustard bath. By stimulating the circulation it acts directly on the liver, which is set in vigorous action by the increased flow of blood.
A JUNON Bath-Mustard bath is also a safe, as well as a pleasant, method of preventing chill; especially after exposure to severe weather or the wearing of damp clothing or wet shoes. It is delicately perfumed, and will soften the hardest water.
You don't know how really refreshing and invigorating a bath can be until you have tried a JUNON Bath-Mustard bath—it makes you feel FINE, even after the most exhausting day; and gives to the body that soothed, comfortable feeling which makes a good night's sleep a certainty.
1/6, 2/6, & 3/6 a box, from all Chemists and Stores, or direct.

World-wide appreciation proves the value of

JUNON

Hair Tonic

Restores gloss and brilliancy—stops hair falling—nourishes and strengthens the roots—removes dandruff—positively makes the hair grow—is a beneficial and pleasant dressing for daily use.

post 1/- & 2/6 free

Two kinds: Greasy for dry and brittle hair; Non-greasy for greasy hair.

Carefully packed
JUNON Hair Tonic may be used in conjunct on with the JUNON Hair Stains; as, while it will quickly restore strength and vigour to the hair, it will not injure the effect of the stains in any way.

JUNON Ltd.

Hair Stain

This is the only permanent and really satisfactory one-solution hair stain—absolutely harmless—perfectly natural tints—easily applied in one operation—defies detection—does not stain the skin.

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2353	98418	200063	338737	490518
15179	106865	200559	345400	499444
17932	109813	210144	364367	507992
32247	130414	224758	368592	533601
41242	135573	247951	373729	572304
48960	168357	265723	388441	582070
67531	177548	272720	402055	622621
68976	181376	304751	416712	652351
87517	187470	316411	425303	679117
90780	196327	320251	482945	689454

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